THE BLACK BOX
SEE IT, HEAR IT
AT GILMANS
Radio Dept. Gloucester Arcade

THE WEATHER: Light to moderate S. E. winds. Cloudy, becoming fair during the evening.

CHINA MAIL

Established 1845

No. 36319 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1955. Price 20 Cents

RELAX IN DAKS
THE FAMOUS CLOTHING IN ACTION TROUSERS
Whiteaways
HONGKONG & KOWLOON

RAILWAY SABOTAGE ATTEMPT

Lines Unbolted In Yorkshire: Sand Ballast Found On Track

POLICE LAUNCH INQUIRY

London, Dec. 28.

Police today began an investigation into a "deliberate" sabotage attempt against the nationalised British Railways, plagued by a month-long series of crashes and accidents in which 24 people have been killed and more than 180 injured.

Saboteurs were blamed for cutting the main Bradford to Skipton line at Charleston, Yorkshire yesterday.

A trackwalker found a heap of ballast sand on the mainline at one point and lengths of unbolted rails at another. The bolts were missing and police said "it was a deliberate attempt to sabotage the line."

Discovery of the break averted what could have been another tragic accident. Police said the person or persons responsible "must have had considerable technical knowledge."

TWO NEW INCIDENTS

Two other incidents were reported on the railway yesterday.

An express train trying to labour uphill through a dark tunnel slid backward yesterday while the smoke-blinded engineer thought it was moving forward. It piled up on the hillside and four coaches were derailed.

"I thought I was moving forward," said engineer Herbert Hayes. "I was as surprised as the passengers when I came into daylight and saw the train was sliding backwards."

Wheels of the overloaded engine lost their grip on the wet underground rails and the whole train skidded downhill in a rocking ride that ended when four rear cars jumped the tracks.

All aboard escaped serious injury but the derailed coaches were badly crushed.

"If I hadn't braked hard it would have been a real pile-up," said the engineer.

Railway officials reported that several passengers were "shaken."

A London-bound train was delayed three hours when a schedule mix-up left a signal box unmanned at Southport, Lancashire.

REPORT TO EDEN

The Minister for Transport Mr Harold Watkinson called for a full-scale inquiry into the operations of the railways on Saturday after three train crashes within 36 hours.

Later he reported personally to Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden.

One person was killed and 39 injured in the three crashes, all of which occurred when stationary trains were rammed in the rear by moving trains.

Earlier this month, crashes and accidents took the lives of 23 people.—United Press.

After The Crash At Luton

Telescoped and shattered coaches after the rail crash at Luton station, Bedfordshire last Thursday.

There was one fatality and 50 people were injured after the London to Derby express ran into the back of the London to Leicester train which was standing in Luton station.

Emergency services were mobilised for rescue work.

Several passengers were trapped in the Leicester train.—Reuterphoto.

British Ship Batters Way Through Ice

London, Dec. 28.

The British Antarctic expedition ship Theron battered its way through ice to within 1,000 miles of its destination on the frozen continent today.

Expedition headquarters said it received a cable from the Theron saying it had covered 9,000 miles of the 10,000-mile journey it began here six weeks ago.

The cable said the Theron was making "rapid progress" through ice as it neared Antarctica.

Sir Edmund Hillary, conqueror of Mount Everest, is aboard the vessel as an observer. He is to lead a New Zealand expedition to link up with a British expedition across the Antarctic in 1958. He boarded Theron at Montevideo.—United Press.

'Spies' To Be Executed

Paris, Dec. 28.

Two members of an alleged British spy ring in Poland were yesterday sentenced to death by a Warsaw military tribunal, the Polish PAP agency announced tonight.

Five other members of the ring, including three women, received long prison sentences.

The "British spies" were said to have passed to Britain a quantity of information relating to Polish national defence. They had worked under the leadership of a man whose name was given as Jan Miller, and who was described as head of the British espionage service in Poland.

This was the second trial of "British spies" in the last five days. Seven other trials of "spies and terrorists" resulted in heavy penalties during September and October.—France-Presse.

Bomb Unearthed

Bologna, Dec. 28.

All nearby buildings including an army hospital were evacuated today while bomb disposal experts dismantled a 550 lbs bomb which had lain unsuspected on the bed of a canal here since the war.—Router.

Krushchev Calls, Niazov Goes

TOP COMMUNIST IS 'LIBERATED'

Moscow, Dec. 28.

A change in the top Communist leadership of the Soviet Republic of Uzbekistan was made soon after a visit to the Republic by Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin and Soviet Communist Party chief, Nikita Krushchev, it was revealed today.

Amino Niazov, First Secretary of the Uzbekistan Central Committee since 1950, has been "liberated from his functions." He is replaced by Nuritdin Mudkheidinov, until now Premier of the Republic. The new Premier is Zabir Zamalov, previously third secretary of the party.

The reshuffle in Uzbekistan, which borders on Afghanistan, was revealed in the December 23 issue of the "Pravda Vostoka", received in Moscow today. The shake-up took effect on December 22, shortly after Bulganin and Krushchev passed through Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on their way back to Moscow after their Asian tour.

COMPLETE SURPRISE

No explanation for the change was given. The announcement came as a complete surprise as there had been no indication of an impending change. On December 20, the "Pravda Vostoka" was still giving prominence to Niazov, as First Secretary of the Party, in a report on an agricultural conference attended by Bulganin and Krushchev.

There is no confirmation that Niazov is actually in disgrace. He was not criticised by Krushchev in his speech at the Tashkent conference. On the other hand, the usual reassuring formula of being "called to other duties" was not used.

The new Party leader, Mukheidinov has long filled top posts in the Republic of Uzbekistan.—France-Presse.

Russians May Return To Canberra

Canberra, Dec. 28.

Diplomatic relations between Russia and Australia, broken off after Vladmir Petrov revealed the extent of Soviet espionage in Australia, will probably be renewed in June, it was reported today.

Reliable sources said the Russians already have put out "cautious feelers about renewed relations," and officials here have indicated privately that they favour the idea.

A scheduled auction of the property of the Soviet Embassy here was postponed indefinitely without explanation some time ago.

WOOL TRADE PROSPECTS

Australian officials were said to be tempted by the prospect of a renewal of the wool trade with Russia, which was broken off at the time of the diplomatic rupture.

Soviet participation in the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne was said to be another factor influencing the probable resumption of relations.

The diplomatic break occurred after Petrov, a secret police Colonel who was serving as Russia's chief spy in Australia, "chose freedom" here two years ago and disclosed the workings of the Soviet spy apparatus to Australian security officials.—United Press.

Death Of Malaria Expert

London, Dec. 28.

Sir Malcolm Watson, a great malaria expert, died at his home in Surrey today, aged 82.

Known as the man who supervised the work of reclaiming Singapore and most of the Malayan plantation areas from malaria, Sir Malcolm first became interested in the malaria problem in 1903.—France-Presse.

★ LONDON—And The Hydrogen Bomb

BRITAIN TO SCRAP ATOM-PROOF FORTRESS PROJECT

By CHAPMAN PINCHER

London, Dec. 28.

An underground network of "atom-proof" fortresses and tunnels built below London to house the Cabinet and key people in war, has been written off as useless.

The shelters, which cost millions, couldn't withstand the blast of the latest type of Russian H-bomb exploding on or near the ground.

When they were planned five years ago the experts could not foresee weapons with power much greater than half a million tons of TNT—25 times the power of the Hiroshima bomb.

The latest Russian weapon has the power of several millions of tons of TNT and bombs with the force of 50 million tons are considered possible.

Home Office experts advised that the people responsible for directing the nation would have to be sent at least ten miles out of London in any emergency.

They are reconsidering a reduced role which the fortresses might be given in the event of attack.

The main fortress, dug out below Whitehall with the entrance near Downing Street, links with another tunnel fortress a short distance behind Westminster Abbey.

Tunnels for "vital communications" stretch out from fortresses under the Thames into Southwark where there is a big underground civil defence headquarters.

The main fortresses are fitted with special air-conditioning machinery and have their own electric generating systems. They are equipped to enable hundreds of people to live below ground for many days.—London Express Service.

★ WASHINGTON—And The Atom Bomb

NEW ORDER TO INDUSTRY

Washington, Dec. 28.

Immediate changes in production strategy to counter the threat of devastation at the outset of a general atomic war were ordered today by the United States Air Force.

The new policy, approved by the Defence department, reverses the old idea of building up war industries after the start of hostilities.

It gives top priority to selected aircraft and missiles that would be used to deliver counter atomic blows and to defend the United States from a nuclear assault.

The new policy was dictated by technical advances and shifting international, political and military power requiring "radical changes in our national strategy" and "a new approach" to industrial planning for a national emergency, a spokesman said.—Reuter.

Engine Fell Off In Mid Air

Rome, Dec. 28.

A New York bound American D.C. 7-B airliner with 48 people aboard, limped back to Ciampino airport tonight after one of its four engines had fallen off in mid-air and another had broken down.

The captain, A. D. Reedy, guided the airliner down to a perfect landing three hours after taking off for New York.

He reported that one of the engines had dropped off while the plane was flying over Lombardy in northern Italy on its way to Brussels.

During his perilous flight back to Ciampino on two engines the captain kept the Italian air control constantly informed of his progress. He was given a hero's welcome after bringing the big plane safely down.

The aircraft, belonging to Pan-American Airways, carried 42 passengers and a crew of six.

An inquiry into the mishap was started immediately.—France-Presse.

Princess Dies Of Burns

Bagdad, Dec. 28.

Princess Jalilah, aunt of King Feisal of Iraq, died here today aged 28.

She was the youngest daughter of the late King Ali of Hedjaz now part of Saudi Arabia and a sister of Crown Prince Amir Abdullah, former regent of Iraq.

Princess Jalilah died as a result of severe burns she received when lighting a kerosene stove.

The Government announced that there would be three days of national mourning starting tomorrow.—Reuter.

Warm Day In Paris

Paris, Dec. 28.

Parisians today enjoyed their warmest December day in 35 years. The mercury went up to 14.8 degrees Centigrade (58.6 Fahrenheit), a mark which equals the record for the date set on December 28, 1920.—France-Presse.

Armistice Violations

Warning To Egypt And Israel

Jerusalem, Dec. 28.

Both Israel and Egypt are still violating the Israeli-Egyptian armistice agreement by maintaining forces in areas not permitted under the agreement, General E. L. M. Burns, chief Truce Supervisor, said in a communique issued tonight.

General Burns said in the communique that Egypt had "not yet formulated its final position" regarding the proposals of Mr Dag Hammarskjold, United Nations Secretary-General, for the El Auja demilitarised zone.

Egypt considered negotiations to be still open, the communique said.

CONDITIONS

General Burns issued the communique on his return from Gaza where he had been conferring with Lieutenant-Colonel Saia Gohar, Director of the Palestine Department of the Egyptian War Ministry.

The communique said, that both Egypt and Israel had put forward conditions for the acceptance of the Hammarskjold proposals.

But yesterday an Israeli spokesman said Israel accepted unconditionally Mr Hammarskjold's plan.—Reuter.

NOT AMONG TOP TEN

Marilyn Monroe Surprise

Hollywood Dec. 28.

James Stewart headed the United States cinema box office list this year with Grace Kelly second and Marilyn Monroe a surprise absentee from the Top Ten, according to the Motion Picture Herald's survey published tonight.

John Wayne, last year's leading moneyspinner took third place followed by William Holden, Gary Cooper, Marlon Brando, Martin and Lewis, Humphrey Bogart, June Allyson and Clark Gable.

Marilyn Monroe, fifth last year, had only one film released this year, "The Seven Year Itch".

Grace Kelly, winner of the academy award this year for the best actress, made her first appearance in the list.

In a separate survey of Canadian cinema box offices she won first place.—Reuter.

CHINA FREES BRITISH MOUNTAINEERS

Paris, Dec. 28.

The Communist New China News Agency tonight announced the release of two British mountaineers and a Nepalese, arrested by the Chinese Communists for crossing the border from Nepal into Tibet.

The three climbers were members of a Welsh expedition to the Himalayas.

The New China News Agency announcement from Lhasa said: "Two British and a Nepalese, who had been detained by Chinese border defence units for illegal entry into the Chinese territory at a point near Tingkelipu mountain pass were released and sent out of China on December 11, after admitting their fault.

"They were S. Wignal and J. Harrop (British) and Demomor Narayan Suwan (Nepalese)."

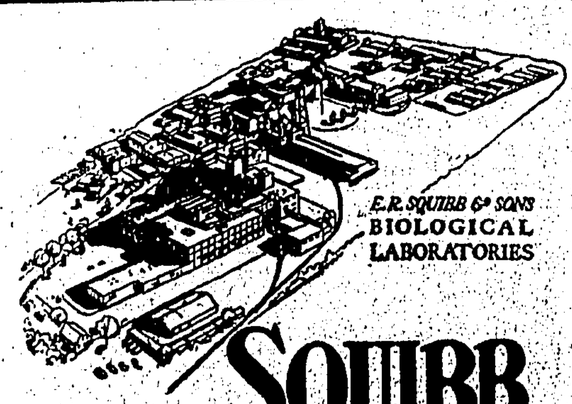
The Communist agency said they entered Chinese territory on October 24.

Sidney Wignal, 31, John Harrop, 28, and their Nepalese liaison officer, Demomor Narayan Suwan, were on a reconnaissance for the Welsh expedition at the time of their arrest.

The news of their arrest reached the outside world on November 22, nearly a month after the event. Their arrest was not mentioned by Chinese sources until today.

The British Government made efforts through diplomatic channels at Peking and Katmandu to secure their release.

The expedition, sponsored by the Welsh Alpine Club, and the newspaper "Liverpool Daily Post," was attempting to scale the peaks of Saypal and Api-Nampa in northwest Nepal.—France-Presse.



SQUIBB
PHARMACEUTICAL
PRODUCTS
ARE MADE HERE
QUALITY

COMMENT OF THE DAY

To Join Or Not To Join?

THE troubles in Jordan, which though quiescent now can be expected to become manifest again in the New Year, show in a melancholy way how the internal dissensions in the Middle East expose the whole region to danger, and may, if not overcome, frustrate efforts to build up security.

The countries which have formed the Baghdad alliance—a defensive alliance against a very evident threat—invited Jordan to become a member. It had been apparent they would do so ever since their recent Baghdad conference. Jordan, in view of its national interest, strategic position, and relations with Iraq, seemed especially likely to be attracted by the ideas which led to this new alliance.

What has happened is that forces interested in maintaining the present divisions and instability have seized the opportunity to set in motion operations which exude a thick mist of suspicion, misconception, and misrepresentation.

THE master card which the enemies of the pact operated was Israel. They have spread with great care the rumour that Jordan is being asked to moderate its attitude towards Israel. The rumour was completely false because the issue of Israel was irrelevant to the negotiations. Nevertheless its effect upon the populace was sufficient to create riots and anti-government demonstrations.

Public opinion in Jordan has still to be persuaded that if she joins the Baghdad alliance, it will in no way compromise her position. On the contrary, the country would become militarily stronger and would possess powerful and reliable allies. Iraq, which Israel considers one of its most inveterate antagonists, was one of the founder members of the alliance. It would certainly not allow the alliance to be used for purpose of which Jordan could disapprove.

If the people of Jordan at next month's parliamentary elections reject the alliance, it will sadden those who are particularly in the alliance's economic potentialities. At the Baghdad conference it was made clear that the pact was to be as much an economic association between governments as a political or military one.

THE aim is to start in the Middle East an economic effort comparable with that of the Colombo Plan in South Asia. The form would be different, since the Middle East, unlike South Asia, is not short of capital. It has thus great natural advantages. It is the marriage of the huge natural resources of the Middle East to the most up-to-date technical skill of the West which the Baghdad alliance is intended to bring about.

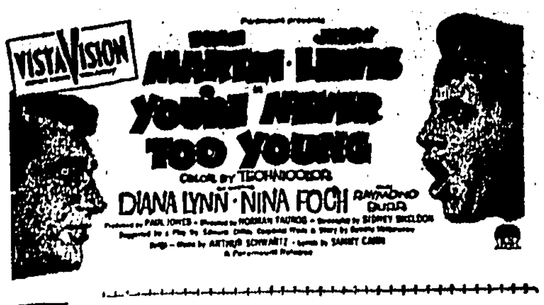
Even more than most other countries of the region, Jordan might benefit from the economic act. It has a very large territory, and a rather small population. It can expect rapidly to achieve economic development. But the country needs experts; it needs science; and it needs to bring these in under a system by which its national interests and independence are fully protected. The Baghdad alliance offers the means.

Recent events, it is hoped, may prove to have been only a passing phase. They are an effort by the forces which thrive on division and confusion. The threat from the Communist powers is very plain. Nevertheless, the spirit of negation need not always prevail. The people of Jordan will have their opportunity of making an enlightened decision in the New Year.

KING'S : PRINCESS : EMPIRE

AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 and 9.30 p.m. | AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 and 9.30 p.m. | AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 and 9.30 p.m.

— TO-DAY ONLY —

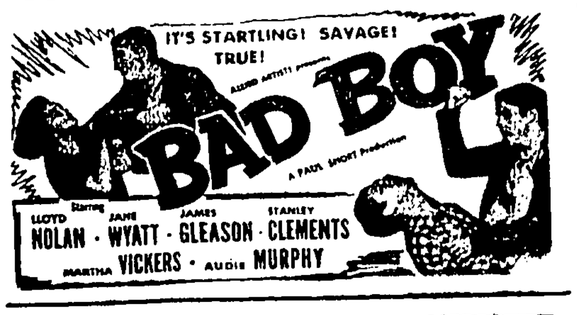


KING'S ★ PRINCESS

COMMENCING TO-MORROW

EMPIRE

COMMENCING ON SATURDAY



ROXY & BROADWAY

— SHOWING TO-DAY —

Owing to length of picture please note change of times: AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M.

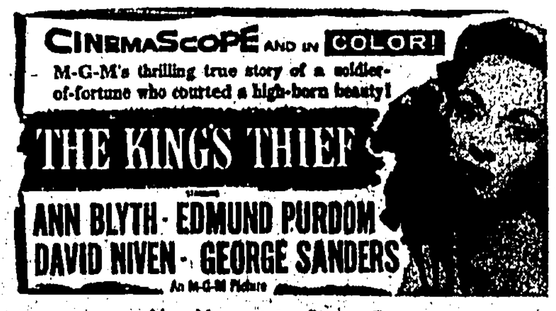
HERE COMES THE SAGA OF THE TALL MEN AND THE WOMEN WHO LOVED THEM!

HOOVER : LIBERTY

CAUSEWAY BAY TEL.72371 KOWLOON TEL. 60148, 60240

— NOW PLAYING —

AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



Also Newest in CinemaScope

M-G-M COLOR CARTOONS

Coming Big Picture "LOVE ME OR LEAVE ME"

ORIENTAL AIR CONDITIONED

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

4-Track Directional Stereophonic Sound—Wide Screen!

UNITED EUROPE PROJECT

Spanish Pretender Takes Oath Of Allegiance

Prince Juan Carlos, pretender to the throne of Spain, kisses the colours after taking the oath of allegiance during the passing-out ceremony at the military school at Zaragoza, Spain.—Express Photo.

UK PRESS COUNCIL DEFENDS PAPERS' RIGHTS

London, Dec. 29.

Britain's Press Council, an organisation which acts as a "watchdog" on the ethics and good taste of British newspapers, today defended their right to print "the lustier and more violent aspects of life."

In its second annual report the Council said the press was often "sharply and ignorantly assailed" in speeches and radio or television features.

"The detractors may be honest in deploring, say, the moral tone of reports of crime sex cases and sport with a gambling element. Like many old - fashioned puritans, they would like the lustier and more violent aspects of life to be hidden from the general view," it said.

The Council, a voluntary body made up of newspaper proprietors, editors and journalist union representatives, examines complaints against newspapers made to it.

No Discipline

It has no disciplinary powers but gives wide publicity to its views on the complaints.

The report drew attention to what it called "the objectionable exploitation of public interest in the Royal Family by certain newspapers and periodicals."

The Council, it said, would like to see instituted certain standards of behaviour which would in time become a part of every British journalist's professional equipment.

The code of conduct which it sought might also cover "the unwholesome exploitation of sex in some newspapers."

The report quoted a recent leading article in The Times newspaper which said: "The race for mammoth circulations has led in some cases to a disgraceful lowering of values. The baser instincts are being pandered to not only in lasciviousness but in social attitude and in conduct as well."

The Council commented that there was much truth in these strictures but added: "It is easy to go on to condemn the popular press root and branch, and to find little or no good to be said for it. But that would be a mistake."

The fault should not blind critics to the very real virtues and value of the popular press.

"They take up causes and run campaigns which would naturally not see the light of day in the staider section of the press because that is not its purpose. They are invariably on the side of patriotism and legality, of courage and chivalry."

The Council rejected a proposal that it should be armed with disciplinary powers analogous to those possessed by the law, society and the British Medical Association.

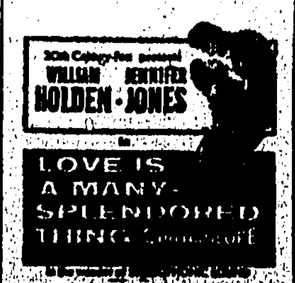
Officials Attacked

It also attacked officials who think that by sending out documents marked "Private and Confidential" they can prevent information being published.

"It is not for the editor to suppress what the public ought to know simply because an official or public authority finds it far more convenient if the press keeps quiet about it," the Council commented.—China Mail Special.

MAJESTIC

FINAL TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



— TO-MORROW —

"DOCTOR AT SEA"

in VistaVision

Color by Technicolor

Party Leaders Want France To Take Initiative

Paris, Dec. 28.

The Popular Republican Party (MRP), led by M. Georges Bidault and M. Robert Schuman, called today for France to take the lead in getting the united Europe project rolling again.

Ex-Premier Pierre Mendes-France's opposition "Republican Front" already is supporting an atomic energy pool and common market for all of Europe.

It was one more issue indicating that once the January 2 elections are over the French middle-road parties—now bitterly divided among themselves—may co-operate against the extremes of right and left.

The MRP Executive Committee today adopted a resolution urging "all Republican parties, whether they class themselves in the Opposition or the majority," to draw up a common agenda for action.

Atomic Energy

The resolution said: "France must take the initiative in diplomatic negotiation to decide on the realisation of a European community for the production and peaceful use of atomic energy and the step-by-step establishment of a common market."

The MRP resolution followed hard on a declaration of M. Mendes-France's chief ally, the Socialist leader Guy Mollet, that he and M. Mendes-France were in "agreement" in supporting a European atomic and trade community.

With the elections still to come, M. Mollet and M. Mendes-France on the one hand and Premier Edgar Faure, Foreign Secretary Antoine Pinay and ex-Premier Bidault on the other already were slowing down their attacks on each other.—United Press.

PRESIDENT ARRIVES AT KEY WEST

Key West, Dec. 28.

President Eisenhower has arrived here in his personal aircraft to spend a fortnight's holiday in the sun.

Brilliant sunshine greeted the President who is recovering from the heart attack he suffered on September 24.

Last night Key West City Council hastily renamed North Beach Road as Eisenhower Drive. It intersects with Roosevelt Boulevard and Truman Avenue named after Democratic presidential visitors.

Mr Eisenhower is to occupy the same quarters at Key West naval base as he used as Army Chief of Staff in 1948 while recuperating from an illness.—Reuter.

US Soldiers Assist Jap's Education

New York, Dec. 28.

Nobuo Mii, a Japanese engineering student, has been helped to continue his studies at Columbia University here through the generosity of two American Air Force sergeants, the University news office reported today.

He met the soldiers, Sergeant Clifford W. Shocklin and Technical Sergeant John E. Hagan, at gatherings of the Japanese Amateur Radio League.

Through these meetings a warm friendship developed and the American sergeants, although each of them supports a family on the pay of a non-commissioned officer, decided to sponsor Nobuo's further technical education in the United States.

He graduated from Kyushu University in March 1955 with a bachelor of engineering degree. So far each sergeant has contributed about $1,000 toward the Japanese youth's education at Columbia.

Perfect English

In order to perfect his knowledge of English Nobuo has enrolled at Columbia Language Centre. After one semester at the language centre, a division of Columbia's School of General Studies, Nobuo expects to enter the School of Engineering at the University where he will work for his master of science degree. He hopes to specialise in electronics.

In a letter to his professor Sergeant Hagan, who is now stationed at MacDill air force base, Florida, wrote: "We are lucky to be able to sponsor a bright young man like Nobuo. I am sure he will go far in electronics back in Japan and if he does and can take back part of America with him—as he has enabled me to better understand his native land—that is all the repayment we want."—China Mail Special.

CAPITOL RITZ

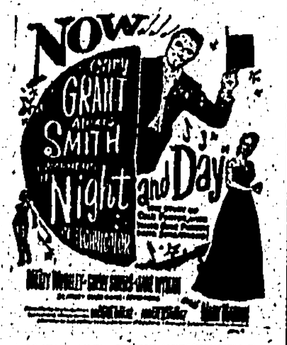
TO-DAY At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

— NEXT CHANGE —

"STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND"

in VistaVision

— SHOWING TO-DAY — At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.



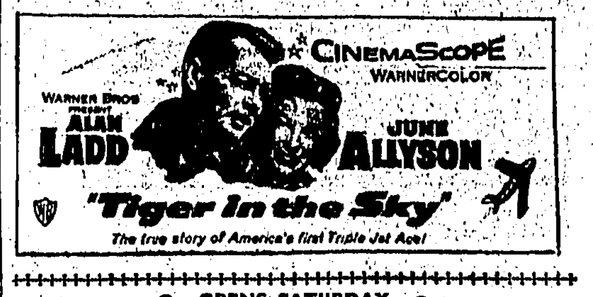
— NEXT CHANGE —

James STEWART & June ALLYSON

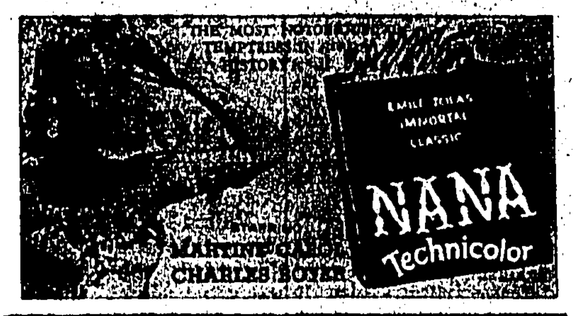
"STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND"

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

SHOWING TO-DAY



● OPENS SATURDAY ●



NEW YORK · GREAT WORLD

CAUSEWAY BAY, TEL.72721 KOWLOON. TEL.53500

✦ LAST TWO DAYS ✦

AT 2.30, 5.30 (NEW YORK AT 5.15 P.M.) 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

LOVER! ROVER!

NEW YORK Added Attraction At 2.30, 5.15 & 9.30 p.m.

"THE RIVAL WORLD" in Eastmancolor

First Prize Winner at Venice Film Festival 1955.

COMMENCING SATURDAY 31st DECEMBER

See the Glamour Opera!

LEE

Presents

"ROMANCE OF WESTERN CHAMBER"

(記廂西)

(Cantonese Opera) To-night at 8.00 p.m.

Matinee "PEARL TOWER" To-day at 1.30 p.m.

BLUE HEAVEN

(NIGHT CLUB)

KING'S RESTAURANT

SPECIAL DINNER DANCE on NEW YEAR'S EVE, NEW YEAR'S NIGHT

Free Gifts

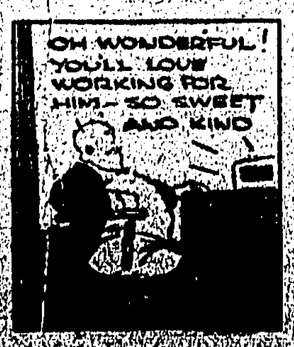
PLEASE BOOK YOUR TABLE EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

TINO & HIS BAND WITH Famous Vocalists

MISS GRACE & MISS DIANA SHIH.

King's Theatre Bldg., 1st Floor. Tel: 26968

POP



High Fidelity

★ US Representative Returns From Communist Countries ★

Little Likelihood Of War With Russia In 1956 He Says

BUT AMERICA MUST MAINTAIN HER SUPERIORITY

Washington, Dec. 28.

Representative Patrick Hillings, back from a trip through Russia and other Communist countries, said today: "There is little likelihood of war with Russia in 1956."

Mr Hillings, one of many Congressmen who visited Russia during the Congressional recess, told the Silver Spring (Maryland) Rotary Club that as long as the United States maintained superiority Russia "won't take a chance" on starting a war.

He said he was satisfied that this country had more and better planes, bases and nuclear weapons than the Soviets.

Mr Hillings predicted that the Chinese Communists would continue pressure on Formosa next year and would make a concentrated effort to capture Indonesia and other Asiatic territory by internal subversion.

Despite Blusterings

But he said: "Despite the blustering statements of Bulganin and Khrushchev, the Russians don't want war at this time and are not prepared for it.

"They are having economic difficulties and the committee which is now running the Soviet Union needs more time to solidify its control."

Mr Hillings also listed West Germany as a potential danger spot. He said the free world would be in serious trouble "If something should happen to German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer."

While West Germans were strongly anti-Communist, he said, they badly wanted peace and reunification and, without Dr Adenauer, might accept Communists in their government as part of a deal with Russia.—United Press.

Gregory Peck

NO COMMENT ON ROMANCE

Hollywood, Dec. 28.

Actor Gregory Peck, at home in bed with influenza, refused to confirm or deny today reports that he might marry Veronique Passani, 22-year-old French journalist, over the New Year weekend.

He and Miss Passani met in Paris in 1954 while he was making films and have been linked romantically since then.

Peck's former wife, the former Greta Konen, won an interlocutory divorce decree from him last December 21 after a two-year separation.—China Mail Special.

UK WEEKLY WAGE BILL INCREASES

London, Dec. 29.

The weekly bill for 11,537,000 British industrial workers rose by £4,857,800 in the first 11 months of this year, it was announced here today.

In the same period of 1954 the weekly wage bill increased by £3,375,000 the Labour Ministry's monthly gazette said.

Most of this year's increases went to iron and steel workers, followed by certain engineering and transport employees and people in the tobacco industry.

Strikes during the same period cost the country 3,034,000 individual working days. Of these 1,687,000 concerned transport people and 1,099,000 miners.

A total of 639,200 British workers were involved in strikes at some time or other during the year.—Reuter.

NO TAXIS IN PARIS MONDAY

Paris, Dec. 28.

Parisians will have to do without taxis on election day next Monday. Taxi companies in the capital have reached an agreement with their drivers to observe the day as a paid holiday, it was announced tonight. The day has been declared a legal holiday.

At the same time the cabbies who drive their own taxis will observe the holiday in order to press demands for a change in their social security status.—France-Presse.

DIPLOMAT'S DAUGHTER WEDS IN VIENNA

Vienna, Dec. 28.

The wedding was celebrated here today of Michael Palmer, son of Paul Palmer, executive editor of the Readers Digest, and Claude Lamottee, daughter of Lady Wallinger and stepdaughter of Sir Geoffrey Wallinger, British Ambassador to Austria and formerly of the British diplomatic service in China and Southeast Asia.

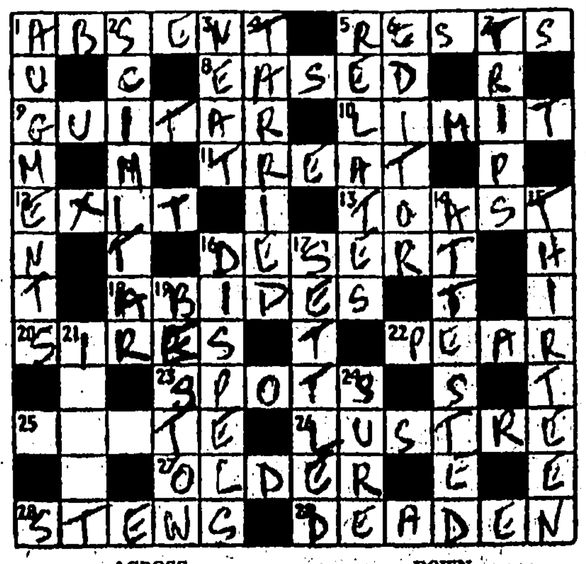
The ceremony took place in the chapel of the Hofburg, the former winter residence of the Imperial Family of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Chancellor Present

It was celebrated by the Papal Nuncio, Monsignor Dellepiane, in the presence of the Austrian Chancellor, Dr Julius Raab, Vice-Chancellor Adolf Schaerf and Foreign Minister Leopold Figl.

The father and mother of the bridegroom had flown over from America to be present at the wedding, which was attended by leaders of the diplomatic corps and of Austrian political and social life.—Reuter.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1 Away (6).
5 Reposes (5).
8 Relieved (5).
9 Stringed instrument (6).
10 Boundary (5).
11 Entertain (5).
12 Way out (4).
13 Proposal of health (5).
16 Abandon (6).
18 Tolerates (6).
20 Forbears (5).
22 Fruit (4).
23 Spies (5).
25 Cream (5).
26 Sheen (6).
27 Not so young (6).
28 Simmers (6).
29 Reticle numb (6).

DOWN

1 Supplements (8).
2 Sword (8).
3 Tidy (4).
4 Waited (7).
5 Tells (7).
6 Press chief (6).
7 Stumbles (5).
14 Bore witness (8).
15 Number (8).
16 Scatters (7).
17 Established (7).
19 Grant (6).
21 Creek (5).
24 Certain (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 1 Prised, 5 Sinew, 8 Vent, 9 Raised, 11 Enter, 12 Spruce, 15 Gift, 16 Lease, 18 Abate, 19 Sells, 20 Scraps, 24 Exact, 25 Tie-pin, 26 Evil, 27 Salad, 28 Esprit. Down: 1 Port, 2 Iris, 3 Ever, 4 Deduct, 5 Steeple, 6 Natural, 7 Worried, 10 Split, 15 Masters, 14 Gallery, 15 Feasted, 17 Nippy, 19 Sauce, 21 Ado, 22 Spar, 23 Knit.

Trumpeter Eddie Calvert—of the golden trumpet—is accompanied by the Lena Chimpanzee Band of the Bertram Mills Circus. The act performed before the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. — Reuterphoto.

Eddie Calvert And Band

Antarctic Expedition Ships 20 Miles From Their Base

Washington, Dec. 28.

THREE ships of the United States Antarctic expedition have penetrated the McMurdo Sound to within 20 miles of the site of the permanent American base on Antarctica, according to a radio report from the expedition today.

Towering Mountain

This report received by the Navy Department in Washington said the ships were moored in the shadow towering Mount Erebus waiting for a windshift to blow light bay ice from the Ross Sea ice shelf before proceeding to the permanent site.

The three ships—the vanguard of the seven-ship Antarctic expedition fleet—were the icebreaker Edisto, the fuel ship Nespelen and the cargo vessel Wyandot.

A Navy Department spokesman told Reuter:

"The three ships entered McMurdo Sound yesterday and are moored to bay ice.

"Our message from them described this bay ice as newly developed and flat but of sufficient thickness to impede navigation.

"The icebreaker could make way through it but a strong wind is needed to force it out of that locality so they can proceed to their permanent mooring."

Another icebreaker the Eastwind was expected to arrive soon in the same general area with a supply barge.

On Ross Island

Mount Erebus is on Ross Island on the western fringe of the Ross Sea not far from the continental mainland on which the United States permanent base to be built in connection with the 1957-58 Geophysical Year will be situated.

Another satellite base will be constructed further south and a third base right on the South Pole.—Reuter.

French Envoys Appointed To Bonn & Moscow

Paris, Dec. 28.

The Journal Officiel (French official) today published decrees confirming the appointment of French ambassadors to Bonn and Moscow.

The French Ambassador in Bonn will be M. Louis Joxe, late Amassador in Moscow, where he is replaced by M. Maurice Dejean, a former French Ambassador in Tokyo and latterly diplomatic adviser to the French Government.—Reuter.

Dogs With A Guilt Complex

Johannesburg, Dec. 28.

Dogs with anxiety neuroses, guilt complex and other neurotic complaints are swelling the lists of patients treated by Johannesburg veterinary surgeons.

One veterinary surgeon said: "I have never come across so many unbalanced animals as in the past few years."

He added that dogs pattern their behaviour largely on that of their owners.—China Mail Special.

Brazilian Newspaper Confiscated

Press Association Makes Protest

Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 28.

The Brazilian Press Association tonight publicly protested against the confiscation from news stands of today's issue of the anti-government daily newspaper, Diario Do Noticias.

The reason given for the seizure was an editorial which alleged undue discrimination against Diario compared with other newspapers.

The Press Association's protest was addressed to General Antonio De Lima Camara, a former police chief now controlling the present state of siege in Brazil.

It said that Diario's opposition to government policy "does not constitute incitement to disruption of public order."

The state of siege was declared recently to thwart any attempt to prevent the President-elect of Brazil Juscelino Kubitschek from taking office.—Reuter.

Brisbane, Dec. 28.

Someone speared the goldfish in the ornamental pond at Anzac Square in the heart of Brisbane.

The city council is also concerned because cars drove over flooded parks towing water skiers, bulldozer fuel tanks were found filled with ash, and visitors to the city's gardens persist in handing lighted cigarettes to the monkeys.—China Mail Special.

THE QUEEN AT RACES

The Queen escorted by the Marquess of Abergavenny (right), with other members of the Royal Family, are leaving the royal enclosure at Royal Ascot.—Queen's Press Photo.

Dionne Quin Deeply In Love

Toronto, Dec. 28.

ANNETTE, one of the four surviving Dionne quintuplets estranged from their family, is "deeply in love with a young man," it was reported today.

The Toronto Star said that the girls' "rebellion" reported by their father yesterday had been fomenting for years. Jealousy among other members of the family was at the root of the trouble.

Mr Oliva Dionne, the girls' father, said in North Bay of Ontario today his disclosure yesterday of a rift in the family was confirmed by their statement that they wanted to be by themselves.

Mr Dionne, who had claimed that the girls had not even sent the family a Christmas card, said he and his wife had still not received a card from them.

(In an interview in Montreal yesterday Yvonne, one of the four, denied that there was any rift and said the girls had sent their family a card).—China Mail Special.

STORMY SCENES EXPECTED IN CONGRESS

Washington, Dec. 28.

Debates over aid to farmers at home and to allies overseas are expected to provide most of the excitement in the Congressional session opening next week.

Proposals for helping the farmers at the moment look like having greater success. Next year is an election year and control of both the Congress and the presidency will largely depend on whether the farmers vote Democratic or Republican in November.

Traditionally the election year session of Congress is a noisy one with members of both parties using it as an arena in which to win the applause and votes of folks back home.

Three factors govern the coming session: first the possibility that President Eisenhower will not run for re-election confronts Republican members of Congress with the prospect of having to win majorities on their own record alone.

Less Disposed

Secondly, the Democrats, who at present have a majority in Congress, will be less disposed than ever to rubber stamp administration legislation and will have plenty of vote-winning proposals of their own to put into law.

Thirdly, 1956 is the last year of the first Republican administration in a generation and certain problems can no longer be postponed.

The administration have been keeping down requests for foreign aid appropriations by using up already appropriated funds.

This is a procedure that cannot go on forever particularly as new Soviet cold war strategy appears to be imposing an "aid race" on top of the current arms race.

The administration has therefore been obliged to ask Congress for a sharp increase in foreign aid appropriations to keep this form of expenditure at its present level and at the same time replenish the heavily depleted pipeline for future years.

This is the assumption outlined by the Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, recently that foreign aid expenditures instead of tapering off as allies become militarily stronger.

But there is still strong opposition to a "never ending" drain on United States resources and an alliance between isolationist-minded Republicans and economy-minded southern Democrats could create serious trouble for the foreign aid appropriations.

Angry Farmers

The basic objective of both the Republican President and the Democratic Congress will be to prove to the voters that they have kept foreign aid down to an absolute minimum and have brought aid to the farmers up to an absolute maximum.

Farmers, angry over declining farm prices and rising costs of production, feel that they have not had a fair share of the record-breaking prosperity enjoyed by other sections of the community. — China Mail Special.

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MAIN STORE,
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UNTIL 5.00 P.M.
CLOSED ALL DAY SUNDAY, JANUARY 1st 1956
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RE-OPEN AS USUAL
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3rd 1956

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"Well, I'll give you one good reason why it's not a good place—in ten minutes we're going to open those doors and let out another thirty thousand of 'em anxious to mingle with the festive crowd."
London Express Service

DON IDDON'S DIARY

From America To The Free World Comes The

MOST EXPENSIVE CHRISTMAS GIFT

New York, Tuesday

THE U.S., as usual, is giving the world's most expensive Christmas present, a little package of $5,000,000,000.

The sum may be whittled down a little by Congress, but that is the gift that President Eisenhower and his Administration want to send to the rest of the free world.

Europeans may say: "Well, the Americans can afford it." This is true. But we should never forget that every million is made up of the dollars and dimes of the ordinary U.S. citizen.

The money comes from the taxpayer and no one else.

This week the U.S. scales an even lusher pinnacle of prosperity, and some economists are saying: "There will never be any more depressions never. Slight recessions perhaps, minor adjustments, but depressions — impossible."

Immense wealth

BECAUSE of the immense wealth of the country, the latest five-billion-dollar Christmas present is not being condemned as too expensive except by a few politicians. (The American billion is a thousand million, unlike the British billion, which is a million million.)

Americans are the most generous people in the world, and they intend to stay that way.

However, I am sorry to see that many Americans still labour under the illusion that Britain not only lags far behind, but does not pay her debts.

The old report has been revived that says that England owes the U.S. $7,783,000,000 on the debt from the First World War.

The chestnut

ALMOST every year about this time the antique chestnut is produced. Here, once and for all are the figures, for which I am indebted to Sir Derwent Hall Caine.

Britain, during the First World War, lent to her allies $7,800,000,000 and received back only $346,000,000. The U.S. lent other allied countries $5,773,000,000 at 4¼ percent, and received back only $679,000,000. While Britain received 43 percent of all the war loans made by the U.S. in the First World War, she paid back 75 percent of all the payments received by the U.S. from all her allies.

The figure of $7,783,000,000 is very largely the result of accumulated interest at 4¼ percent.

Britain's loan of $7,800,000,000 to her allies was largely made at no interest at all. Figures are supposed to be dull, but these are not—certainly not to an Englishman.

I think it is a pity after all the money that we have expended over the years on our information services and our diplomatic and consular services here that we have not been able to get this record straight in American minds.

Britain and the United States have a magnificent case, but they are losing it by default. They do not know how to present their case. So despite the latest $5,000,000,000 gift, and the fact that the U.S. is spending $100 for every $1 Russia spends, and $10 for every $1 the Russians promise, it is the Soviets who are presently winning the psychological war.

Perhaps when President Eisenhower recovers his full strength the West will do better. More and more people are coming to believe that Mr Eisenhower will run again, and the President is doing nothing to change their minds.

Every journalist, however, believes that the President must hold a Press conference soon. Mr Eisenhower has not been questioned now for four months.

Free spending

THERE has never been a Christmas quite like this. It was a millionaire's Christmas with almost everyone spending as freely as a millionaire.

I saw in several stores on Fifth Avenue Christmas trees lavishly decorated with rhinestones and hung with presents and priced at $190 being snapped up.

Cartier, Tiffanys, and Gorhams were invaded for days by people who in the past have only gazed at the windows. Jewellers say: "Couples are buying necklaces, bracelets, and rings costing over $10,000. A few years ago they wouldn't have even dreamt of them."

Cadillacs have become commonplace and the new Lincoln Continental, which is $10,000, and is America's most expensive car, is in such demand that the Ford Company is considering increasing production.

Two-hundred-and-fifty-dollar ermine bags in which to carry bottles of liquor are also on sale and, amazingly, are being bought. Toy suits of armour for boys, costing $100 each, are selling at Schwarz in New York and in stores right across the country.

This was a diamond-dazzling Christmas. Tiffanys offer $189,000 diamond rings, and total jewellery sales this year will be almost $2,000,000,000.

Dazzling

RIGHT across the country the fabulous Christmas shopping grew and grew. Up 21 percent in Detroit from last year. Up 26 percent in Pittsburgh. Up 19 percent in San Francisco; 25 percent in Salt Lake City, and 15 percent in Memphis.

This was a $6,000,000,000 American Christmas with people laying eight percent more money on the counter than they have ever done in history.

I have never known anything like it, and I have never seen New York so dazzling and resplendent.

EMPIRE

King's Road. Telephone 70103.

LOUIS KENTNER

(pianist)

Tuesday & Thursday, 3rd & 5th January, 1956.
at 9.30 p.m.

SOME OF THE THINGS SAID ABOUT KENTNER.

Louis Kentner has been compared by our leading critics with LISZT, BUSONI and RACHMANINOFF.

Among the many pianists of international fame who frequent our concert halls, LOUIS KENTNER IS UNDOUBTEDLY THE MOST OUTSTANDING — Bologna-Pomeriggio.

An artist of the highest rank — Paris-Opera.

From Mrs. Roosevelt's Column
(Letters from Europe to a group of American papers) —
In the evening in Zurich we went to a symphony concert where I enjoyed one of the finest pianists I have ever heard.

KENTNER'S brilliant recitals. "Cheered by the audience" — S. C. M. Post, 25th April, 1953.

KENTNER captivates. "Before almost capacity audiences this inspired virtuoso delighted, thrilled, amazed and captivated" — H.K. Tiger Standard — 25th April, 1953.

KENTNER, the entrancer. "So thunderous was the applause at the end of his recitals that even the tawny Mexican maid, eavesdropping from the grey mural of the Empire Theatre ceiling, seemed to shake" — China Mail, 27th April, 1953.

After the performance the audience stood electrified as if by magic — Kung Sheung Yat Po.

Thunderous applause lasted for some time after the recital — Wah Kiu Yat Po.

Presented by HARRY ODELL and sponsored by
INTERNATIONAL FILMS, LTD.
Booking at MOUTRIE'S and the THEATRE.
Please be in your seats by 9.30 p.m.

THE RISE OF SELWYN LLOYD

By GEOFFREY WAKEFORD

"WATCH that Sudeten Welshman. He will soar like the eagle beyond the peak and, coming winghushed out of cloud, alight on the crag before we have shaken the mist from our eyes."

An old Welsh Socialist once spoke these words to me of John Selwyn Brooke Lloyd who, with 51 years behind him, has become Foreign Secretary. His shadow strikes across the jagged col leading to 10, Dowing Street.

Private joke

THE phrase "Sudeten Welshman" is gently meant—a private joke between those Lloyds and Morgans, Owens and other Celts with tap-roots stretching from the English counties bordering the Principality.

A Welsh prince sired the early Lloyds of Selwyn's ilk, and later generations crossed the mountains to become the Crawshay Baileys of the North—the hard-fisted ironmasters of the Industrial Revolution.

Iron made money, money made bankers, and bankers made artists, writers, doctors, diplomats, and politicians. That, briefly, is the Lloyd story. Liverpool is Selwyn's career city, and Wirral, in Cheshire, his home county, sent him to Parliament in 1945.

Three careers

THE allusion to the eagle is based on what is known of the rapid, silent flight of "Lloyd the Law" in three careers.

The law is his profession. Mark his progress. At the age of 26 he was called to the Bar at Gray's Inn, and practised on the Northern Circuit. He took silk at 43, and was Recorder of Wigan a year later.

Then the Army. In 1939 he was a Territorial subaltern of 35 ("Lloyd the Tank"). By his 36th birthday after the fall of France, he was a major. Lieut-colonel at 38. Full colonel at 39. When the Second Army was formed for the Normandy invasion, Lloyd was promoted brigadier on Headquarters Staff.

Finally, politics. David Lloyd George was still a magic name at Westminster when Lloyd was at Magdalene, and, at 23, president of the Cambridge Union. The dismemberment of the Liberal Party, the shattering of Lloyd George's revivalist dreams were only a few months away when Selwyn had himself adopted Liberal candidate for Macclesfield. He was 25. "Lloyd the Liberal."

Ramsay MacDonald's ill-fated Socialist Government was returned at this 1929 election. Aneurin Bevan went to Parliament, Lloyd the Liberal did not. He came bottom of the poll.

There seemed no future for the Liberal Party. He joined the Tories.

The '30's formed his political character. But they bore no political fruit, though as a Hoylake councillor he secured his base. People of the Wirral—that near-oblong promontory across which the Welsh and the English shake hands—sent him to Westminster in 1945 with a flattering majority. The rest of the country was busy going Socialist.

He was 41 and a backbencher. Today he is 51 and Foreign Secretary. Minister of State in 1951 at the age of 47—the first back-bencher promoted by Churchill. Minister of Supply in 1954 at the age of 50. Minister of Defence in April 1955—still 50. Foreign Secretary in December 1955.

The base

THE base for this astonishing decade of destiny was secured in the six years of opposition, 1945-51. They were years enlivened by the group of young Tories who, in the back rooms of the Tory Central Office, worked under Mr Butler to remesh Tory policy to the realities of the Welfare State and the aspirations of a society which had endured two bloody wars and the rotting rancours of mass unemployment. Selwyn Lloyd was one of the team.

Even then he foreshadowed the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee which, as Defence Minister, he baptised a few weeks ago. In one Finance Bill debate, which he wound up for the Tories, he warned Sir Stafford Cripps that, while the Tories would preserve the social services and underpin defence, they would seek "great economies" in public administration.

This was the Butler plan. Selwyn Lloyd was a Butler man. In their secret labours they were joined by Anthony Nutting and Antony Head. The product was *Britain Strong and Free*, the general policy statement on which the Tories drove the Socialists from power in 1951.

Yet today all three are accepted as Eden men. Lloyd was close to Butler in opposition, but as Minister of State grew closer to Eden.

Safe man

HOW near, now, is Selwyn Lloyd to 10, Downing Street? He is a "safe" man. Safe men have often climbed to power. They are not necessarily popular men. But they are usually good organisers of independent mind.

There is nothing particularly modest about this dapper Sudeten Welshman. His dark eye, like the eagle's, takes you in its sweep, and then darts beyond you—upwards. In the Commons he has much to learn about the finesse of giving in gracefully under criticism. He can be abrupt, even domineering, and he is liked more by men than by women.

But he is a personality. Upon him he carries the same stamp of superior aloofness as was shown by that other Old Fettesian, Viscount Simon, the jurist, and still is shown by two others of his generation at Fetes College now in Parliament—Iain Macleod and Ian Harvey.

An impish gravity nevertheless saves him from a general charge of arrogance. This should help him with a populace which knows so little of him.

DEADLY IS THE TENDER TRAP

THE MORE tender the trap, the deadlier it is.

The best traps are always gentle, concealed, indiscernible to the male, though nearly every woman can detect a soft little whirr and click....the sound I have learned to recognise as the sound of a Tender Trap closing firmly on the prey.

Coming here soon is a film with a title which sums up the age-old feminine cunning in laying a snare for a man, and sums it up in three effective words: "The Tender Trap."

It starts early . . . "Come here, little boy, and kiss me," she will say almost as soon as she is old enough to form the words. And up he trots, trusting and flattered, not knowing that this is only the first and simplest of the traps she will set him all her life.

Never suspecting that a few minutes after she has issued the invitation she will probably change her mind with her bucket.

"I like you, little boy," she will say when she's nearing six years old. "Let's play mothers and fathers."

Astonished and delighted he falls into the trap again—as he will go on doing all his life.

It is among the wives in show business that you find the subtlest tender traps. They are the women whose husbands are paid to make love to the prettiest girls in the world.

Take, for example, the wife of a famous film director. He is an artist, a genius, a man who speaks as a connoisseur of the beauties with whom he works: Margaret Johnston, Joan Greenwood, Valerie Hobson.

INDISPENSABLE

I LOOKED at his wife—she was short and plain. And as I looked at her I listened...

"We have been married many, many years," she was saying. "We are very happy. Rene likes me to be always with him, even on the film set."

And then....whirr....click ....I heard the familiar sound: "You see, I am his critic. I am without pity. I tell him when he is wrong, and he is furious with me.

"But later he changes it and does as I say, because he knows I am right. And then I let him think it was his idea."

And so she held him—a wife who was an artist's most valuable asset—an incorruptible, infallible, well-disposed critic.

Look at the story of the girl who married a top-ranking Hollywood tough guy, already a wealthy star, already (so the rumour went) in love with a 19-year-old beauty who starred with him.

His wife was a publicity woman, just another girl around on the set, neither as young nor as lovely as the girls he worked with.

But "I made myself indispensable to Kirk," she told me.

"I did a great deal more work than I had to for the picture. I fixed him a flat. I fixed him a cook. I organised his parties. I answered his fan mail.

"I crept into his life until (here it comes....whirr....click) I crept into it for good."

Listen to the views of the wife of the screen's new Great Lover.

She is not so pretty, so young, or so slender as the girls who make passes at her husband, but she has him taped.

"He is so charming, so kind, my Rossano," she says.

"I tell him he must be kind to everybody. It is not bad that these little girls should want to make a fuss of him. It is bad if they don't.

"He is like a baby, my husband. But he is a wonderful actor.

"I do not interfere with his acting. He knows more about that than I do. But (whirr.... click) he always takes my advice about money, because on this I am always right.

"We are rich people now. But I have to look after him all the time. He is like a baby."

HE FALLS

THE strangest thing of all about the Tender Trap is that just when the quarry has grown wary, when he's wise to the subtlest snare ever laid, he'll fall for the simplest trap of all.

She doesn't need to speak, but if she did you could hear her whisper, "Come here, little boy, and kiss me."

And he is back where he started.

L. E. S.

(Their married names are, of course, Mrs Clement (wife of Rene Clement, maker of that fine French film "The Secret Game"), Mrs Douglas, and Mrs Brazil.

BURMA TAKES SECOND LOOK AT RUSSIAN AID

By JAMES WICKENDEN

THE first Asian country to see through the Russian aid promises and choose Western support may be Burma.

Russia has just offered U Nu a large-scale agricultural programme of soil experts and machinery to boost rice output. It followed months of negotiation and was tied to Russia's bloc buying of surplus rice.

To U Nu, Burma's Buddhist premier and fervent reformer, the promise of prosperity seemed golden, and he accepted without consulting his cabinet.

But the World Bank has stepped in. They already have a mission in Rangoon headed by Dr Basch, working cautiously to measure Burma's needs and qualifications for aid.

● ●

A blueprint plan foresaw a renewed rail system, a dredged and concrete-built port for Rangoon, and modern rice cultivation.

But Basch is adamant on one point—there must be no Russian aid or the Bank will withdraw. This is no spite against the Bulganin-Khruschev circus but a basic principle of World Bank projects (they turned down appeals for aid from another government when it heard that American engineering interests were also being called in).

U Nu is caught in the dilemma of Asia—to turn to Russia or the West. He is hesitating, and the Bank has stayed its hand.

Before U Nu and all Asian countries is the example of Argentina, which has learnt by bitter experience and the loss of millions of dollars what Russian promises mean.

● ●

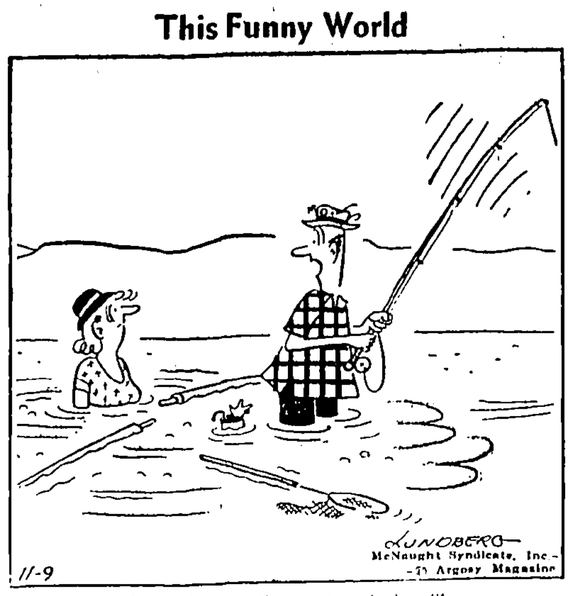
Smart as Peron was, he failed to see through the 1953 agreement under which Russia undertook to provide $30,000,000 of credit for Argentina to buy capital equipment. This was the bait for a clause on a "balanced trade" between the two countries of $150,000,000.

Argentina sweated to ship her side of the "bargain," completing 97 percent of the deal by August last year.

But Russia had sent only one quarter of the crude oil Argentina badly needed. Coal, steel, iron and chemicals followed in tiny dribbles — some never arrived at all.

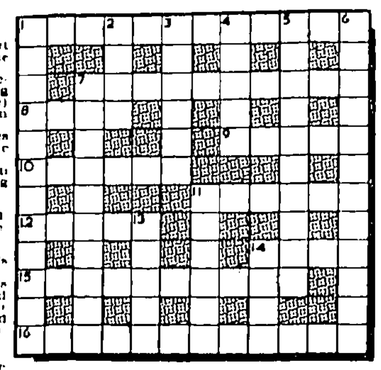
Finally Argentina's regime swallowed the bitter facts and totted up the total loss. It was officially estimated early this year that Argentina was owed the staggering sum of $42,800,002 by Russia for failure in deliveries or dispatch of inferior quality goods.

This Funny World



"Don't just sit there—start bailing!"

Crossword



Across

1 Verb and rate get involved with the reed. (12)
7. This will be useful for holding your notes. (10)
8 Spot for roan Arabs? (4)
9 Fine, sometimes in romantic novels. (5)
10 Glorified in American eating circles. (9)
11 Leave. (6)
12 Smear returned but not quite. (6)
14 What an —— usually means it's a bad one. (4)
15. The point of this is safely tucked away inside. (10)
16 Addison and Steele and so on (6, 7)

Down

1 Roast with the Scotsman inside before the crane mix-up. (12)
4. School note returned. (4)
5. You belong to these animal types. (6)
6 Years. (5)
7 Not on the peg? (6-4)
8 Tastes modern conglomeration. (12)
7. They look after the joint — but they're not cooks. (10)
11. This movement was recorded in wartime. (6)
13 Well-seasoned (6)
14. "Through — — down now, the time will come ....." said Diamell. (1, 3)

MASTERFUL
APOPOISE
STIPULATE
SCRAWLTAC
ELIZABETH
UTTERADEN
SADRACULA
ERASTKYP
SALEROOMS

Yesterday's solution

YOUR BIRTHDAY ... By STELLA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

BORN today, you have a tremendous amount of personal courage and nothing can really "get you down." You have a high temper, however, and must learn to keep it well under control at all times. You will find that you will be more forceful if you can remain calm, even when under attack. There are times to fight back - and times to sit it out and wait. Learn to do the proper thing at the proper time.

You have an innate, honest frankness - a down-to-earth quality which is a valuable asset. Guard against being hoodwinked by those who are more clever and conniving than you are. You have not one speck of guile in your make-up and are no diplomat.

You are naturally fond of people and will make many friends. You also will have many enemies - for one of your positive characteristics always attracts opposition. However, if you will only learn to wait for the right time to move rather than operating on impulse, you will find that you will win out in the end. You have strong emotions and there probably will be but one love in your life. If that does not culminate in marriage, you might never wed.

Among those born on this date are William E. Gladstone, statesman, Andrew Johnson, U.S. President, Charles Goodyear, inventor, John C. B. Davis, statesman, Carmen Sylva, singer, William T. Sedgwick, biologist, Asa Parker, philanthropist.

To read what the stars have in store for you tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star by your daily guide.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Let this be the beginning of a pleasantly carefree weekend. Try to enjoy yourself all the time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) It is impossible to convince a man against his will—so don't you try! Better save your breath.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar 20)—Keep your nose to the grindstone during the working day and complete an important job under way.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)—It will be well worth your while to accept an invitation for a gala party this evening.

TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)—It is not always possible to comply with a friend's request. Don't worry. If you have to say "no."

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—This may be your evening to give a small party for your friends and neighbours. It should be highly successful.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—No matter what happens in a somewhat confused day, keep your sense of humour. It certainly helps.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23) -If you start the festivities too soon, you may be worn out before the gala occurs. Take things easy.

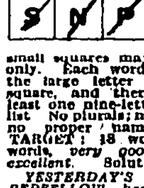
VIRGO (Aug 24-Sept. 23)—This can be a pleasant day. A letter or a message by telephone can bring you exceptional pleasure.

LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct. 23) — You may find it difficult to do any important work today. There are bound to be distractions.

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov. 22)—You will need tact and poise to deal with troublesome situations today. Friends may prove difficult, too.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—You can afford to be a little extravagant this evening if you are entertaining. Have a good time.

TARGET



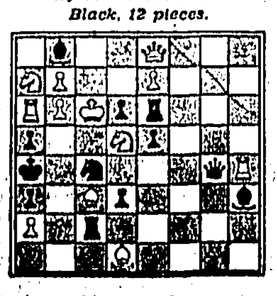
HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters in the square on the left? In making each word, the letters in each of the small squares may be used once only. Each word *must* contain the large letter in the centre square, and there *must* be at least one nine-letter word in the list. No plurals; no foreign words, no proper names. TODAY'S TARGET: 18 words, *good*; 23 words, *very good*; 28 words, *excellent*. Solution tomorrow.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION: BEDFELLOW bedes befell bell bellow bellowed below bled bleed blew blow bold bole boll bowel bowl bowled delt dole doll dowel dwelt elbow elbowed feel fell felled fellow fellow fled flee flew floe flow flowed fold fowl fowled lobe lobed lode lowed weld well welled wold wolf wolfed.

CHESS PROBLEM

By J. KLEMPERER

Black, 12 pieces.



White, 12 pieces.

White to play: mate in three.

Solution to yesterday's problem: 1, Kt—Q8, any; 2, Q mates.

• JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Long Suit Set Up By Ruffing

By OSWALD JACOBY

IN today's hand we carry the principle of ruffing a bit further than we have in other articles in this series. South must establish his long diamond suit by ruffing as often as possible in the dummy.

West opens a trump, suspecting that declarer is relying on ruffing values. A trump lead is often best in such a situation.

South wins with the jack of hearts and should lead a spade at once instead of beginning on the diamonds. Before we discuss the success of the spade play, let's see what would happen if South began instead with the diamonds. He would cash the ace of diamonds, ruff a diamond in the dummy, return to his hand with the ace of clubs, and ruff another diamond in the dummy. There would then be no convenient way to get out of dummy, so the defenders would get their chance to lead a second trump eventually no matter what South did.

South leads a spade to begin with partly in the hope of establishing a trick in the suit and partly to provide a way of getting back to his hand later on—by way of ruffing spades. West plays a low spade, and South agonises about whether to play the jack or the king from dummy. As it happens, South cannot possibly guess right; and East wins the trick.

East returns a club, and South takes the ace of clubs at once. He then cashes the ace of diamonds, ruffs a diamond in dummy, ruffs a spade in his hand, and ruffs another diamond in dummy.

By this time South knows that the diamonds are breaking 4-3. He can afford to overtake the king of hearts with the ace, draw the last trump with the queen, and give up one diamond. South's last trump gets the lead back for him so that he can cash the last diamond as his tenth trick.

NORTH 25
♠ K J 4 2
♥ K 6 4 3
♦ 7
♣ J 6 3 2

WEST
♠ 10 9 7
♥ 10 8 7
♦ K 8 4
♣ K 9 7 5

EAST
♠ A Q 8 6 5
♥ 9
♦ Q 10 6 5
♣ Q 10 8

SOUTH (D)
♠ 3
♥ A Q J 5 2
♦ A J 9 3 2
♣ A 4

East-West vul.

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead—♥ 7

CARD Sense

Q—The bidding has been:

North	East	South	West
1 Diamond	Pass	1 Spade	Pass
2 Clubs	Pass	?	

You, South, hold:
♠K 10 9 8 5 ♥8 4 3 ♦4 2 ♣A 7 6
What do you do?

A—Pass. You should not make a second response with such a weak hand unless your partner makes a forcing bid.

TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You, South, hold:
♠K 10 9 8 5 ♥8 4 3 ♦A 4 2 ♣7 6
What do you do?

Answer Tomorrow

• BY • THE • WAY •

by Beachcomber

THOUGH you may now take a photograph in Hyde Park without supporting your camera on a tripod—(who says this is in not a freedom - loving democracy?)—you are still not allowed to "impart racing information" in the Park.

A whispered word by the Serpentine, be it only the name of the humblest of nags, may bring down upon you the full majesty of the Law. A gentleman in Rotten Row who says to a lady, "Who gave you Greased Lightning for the 2.30?" must expect the lady to reply, casually, "Oh, a person I know, who shall be nameless."

For your wainscot pocket

UNLESS you belong to the theatrical profession, and are therefore bound in honour to give and receive fountainpens, I have discovered a gift that cannot fail to please. It is a "Mouse-scale specially designed for weighing mice," and far more people weigh mice than care to admit it. They are afraid of being laughed at, because it is not yet the smart thing to do. But the moment it is done at cocktail parties, and girls are photographed in special hats and earrings for mouse-weighing, secret mouse-weighers will come into the open, and weigh like the very devil. Those who have no mice to weigh should apply to Mouse House, where there is a stockpile of unweighed mice for hire at 3d. an hour.

Speed, bonny goat!

The goat was so crowded that it sank outside Boulter's Lock.

—News item.

RIDING a goat down the Thames looks like a new sport. But, obviously, if the goat cannot swim it is a mistake for two or more people to ride it at the same time.

Prodnose: Don't you think this may be a misprint for boat?

Myself: If I were to think about this sort of thing, I might lose my nerve.

Problem

A MAN is walking up a flight of 32 stairs. On the 17th stair he meets a man coming down. He stops for 40 seconds, and then goes on up. The man coming down stops for 33 seconds on the 12th step, turns back, and goes up. The man who was going up turns back on reaching the 28th step, and comes down. They meet on the 15th step. What step would they have met on the second time, if the positions had been reversed? Send your answers to Dame Ada Gillbleedes, 154 Welcome Avenue, Bepperley-on-the-Niddle.

WOMANSENSE

A sheath dress in printed white pique. It has high V neckline, and oblique side buttoning.

Easy-to-make Luggage Covers

By ELEANOR ROSS

IF you want your luggage to last longer, use luggage covers to protect the pieces from scuff marks and stains en route or in storage. Covers also hide an ancient but a still sturdy suitcase and therefore prolong its use.

Covers are always acceptable as gifts and they are so easy to make.

The best fabric is heavy, durable cotton or linen, preshrunk so that it can be laundered whenever necessary.

Make a careful pattern with newspaper by tracing around the suitcase on three of the six sides. Cut each piece of fabric in duplicate so that only three pattern pieces are necessary. Allow five-eighths of an inch all around for seams.

Carefully cut material from the patterns and pin it on the suitcase to make sure of perfect fit. Mark and cut an opening in the centre through which the handle will protrude. Then, bind the opening with taper or zigzag it on your machine as you would a buttonhole.

For a really professional job, invest in a heavy upholstery slip cover zipper, long enough to go around two sides and the bottom seam of the cover. Otherwise, use grippers, snaps or buttons.

To insure proper fit and to add to the qualities of the cover, join all seams, except the fastening seam, with welting. Then, as the final operation, press the cover.

Among the various new fabrics launched for next summer, cotton wins hands down....

There's A Cotton Dress For Every Occasion

By DOROTHY BARKLEY

London.

A VARIETY of new summer fabrics have been launched this year, but the old-favourite cotton still wins hands down. In the collections shown for next year, it is the cotton dresses which have the variety of colour and style.

Perhaps the makers sense competition, for they are all falling head over heels in their efforts to please. New types of cotton, new prints, newstyles to lure all-comers have appeared.

ELEGANT TASTE

On the whole London's taste in cottons has become more elegant. Taking note at last of loud complaints that everyone does not want to wear a girlish full skirted dress with gathers bunched on the waistline, the makers have produced a sophisticated version. The dress is sheath slim, depending for its effect on detail of cut—and a reasonably well - proportioned figure beneath. It has nothing of the frivolous beach outfit about it.

Taking the reed slim silhouette as the basic outline, the makers introduce variety in detail and in fabric. One of the most effective of the new cotton crop is in a shadow printed pique, covered with large black blobs that look rather like ink spots. Its detail is new; the high V neck without a collar, the wide shoulder straps which make the sleeves, the one-sided buttoning which slopes down the bodice, and the draping over the hipline.

Another variation has a square neck, and a finely pleated frill round the hemline.

TAILORED TREND

Continuing the tailored trend comes a group of slim dresses partnered with a matching—or contrasting—jacket. Definitely destined for office wear, they are usually made in a firmer fabric to hold the line. Cotton tweed is the favourite fabric here; pale, subdued creams and almonds, the colour choice. The new jacquard cottons are a close second. If you go in for black in the warm weather, one of the most striking of the new outfits consists of a black dress topped with a tartan jacket.

This shirt dress by Horrockses in ribbon striped cotton has narrow tucks on bodice and skirt.

By way of contrast the sporting version of the cotton dress has cap sleeves, shirt-waist front, and full skirt of unpressed pleats. It is usually in a striped floral print and has fine tucking on the bodice.

The young versions of the cotton dress, as opposed to the trim tailored model, have little change in style. The news here is in the fabrics and trimmings. New fabrics are denim with a raised white stripe, dark cottons with flowers patterned in clusters, dimity designs pastel coloured paisley, and ribbon striped patterns.

One of the gayest of the young cottons has Mexican figures printed on it; another was made up of contrasts. A black and white check skirt was topped with a black shirt with collars and cuffs to match the skirt. For the teenagers there are smart office versions of separates. A tailored sleeveless blouse goes with a slim tailored skirt.

For evening wear designs are young and light-hearted. A cotton organdie, with an apple blossom print, makes an enchanting first evening dress.

In day dresses much of the variety comes with the necklines. They can be square-cut like a tunic, collared with a deep bertha collar in white pique, cut with a colourful cowl to stand up all the way round like a ruff, or given a plain tailored peter pan type.

HEARTENING CHANGE

Most heartening of all is that the young dresses are given the styling they deserve, and that the deb's delight—with frills and flounces—seems to have disappeared completely.

Teddy Tinling, whose ideas are copied by those who want to startle their friends on the tennis court or the beach, promises for next year splashes of colour in tennis outfits, and "sundeck suits over puff pants" for the beach.

But they are not quite so gay, perhaps, as a new American idea. American designers have put modern art into cotton and the newest dresses have colourful prints designed by Picasso.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

Willy's Travel Bureau

—He Makes Reservations for South-Flying Birds—

By MAX TRELL

THERE he was, Willy Toad himself, dressed in a bright green uniform like a conductor, and wearing a cap with words in gold letters written on it.

Knarf, the shadow-boy, leaned over closer to read the words on Willy's cap: Travel Agent.

"Say, what does Travel Agent mean?" Knarf asked Willy.

He Helps Travellers

"It means," said Willy, "that I tell folks where to travel when they decide to go travelling. I also get them places to stay at. Ah, here come some customers now!"

All this sounded very mysterious. Willy, the Travel Agent, hopped quickly on top of the toadstool, where he spent all his time, and nodded his head in greeting to his approaching customers.

Knarf turned to see who they were.

The customers were two Robins. "You're a Travel Agent, aren't you?" said the first Robin.

"At your service," said Willy.

"We've decided to go travelling," replied the Robin. "My wife and I are beginning to find the weather a little cold these days."

"That's because it's becoming winter," said Willy.

Robin Likes Warm Weather

"Well," said the Robin, "whatever it is that's making the weather cold, we don't like it. We'd like to go to a place where it's warm."

"Fine," said Willy, "now how would you like to go to South America?"

"South America?" said Mrs Robin. "Is it warm there?"

"Warm as toast," said Willy, "though I can't say truthfully that I've ever been there myself."

"Then how do you know?" asked Mr Robin.

"Mr and Mrs Wren told me," said Willy. "They were there last winter."

"That's good enough for us," said Mr Robin.

"Very good," said Willy, and he told Mr and Mrs Robin that all they had to do was to keep flying south and by and by they would reach South America.

"I'll send a message to my cousin Filipe to save a branch for you in a very pleasant palm tree."

Mr and Mrs Robin thanked Willy for his kindness and promised to bring him back a South American fly for him to eat, then off they went. Knarf and Willy watched them fly straight south.

During the rest of the afternoon, Willy showed what a clever Travel Agent he was by giving advice to Mr and Mrs Tarush, Mr and Mrs Swallow, Mr and Mrs Oriole and quite a number of other birds.

"What does Travel Agent mean?" Knarf asked Willy.

But when Chirpie Sparrow came along and said he would like to travel to a warm place, too, Willy Toad said the warmest place he could fly to was a loose brick in the chimney on top of the house.

"Why couldn't he fly south, too?" Knarf asked Willy.

"Sparrows don't fly south," said Willy. "Some birds have got to stay here with us."

Rupert and the New Boat—7

The two pals start away to tell their friends in Nutwood what has happened, but they have not gone far when from behind them there is a cry for Rupert. "What's up this time?" he thinks. Making his way back to the little strangers he faces them. The toy cowboy has a mischievous grin on his face. "Do you want us to do anything else for you?" Rupert asks. "Have we forgotten anybody?" "Yep, we sure have!" the cowboy chuckles. "You forgot to say anything about a Christmas present for *yourself*!"

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HOUSEHOLD HINTS

To repair a hole in a plaster wall, fill it with plastic wood and let it harden overnight.

• • •

Worn table covers can be turned into new-looking linens by dyeing them a new colour and then cutting them into place mats.

• • •

A rest between wearings adds to the life of foundation garments. A good rule to follow is, "one to wear, one to wash and one to spare."

LAST NIGHT'S SOCCER

SCOTLAND AND CHINA QUALIFY FOR INTERNATIONAL FINAL

By "TOUCHWOOD"

Scotland and China qualified for the International Football Cup final when they overcame Portugal and England by scores of 3-2 and 3-0 respectively in yesterday's floodlight matches at the Caroline Hill Stadium before a near capacity crowd.

While China scored as they willed and for most of the second half played more to please the crowd than to go for goals, the same cannot be said for Scotland who had to fight tooth and nail to hold on to their three goals lead and they just managed to scrape through.

Portugal would have walked off the field with honours shared had they kept their heads when referee Hancock thumbed inside-left Cotrim and Texeira in goal off the field. Cotrim got the marching orders for talking back to the referee and Texeira for using his foot against an opponent in the dying minutes of the match.

It was a pity that the Portugal versus Scotland match had to end in this unpleasant manner for both teams played up to a fairly high standard in the first 45 minutes.

Scotland made no bones about their intention of playing another round right from the word go and their first goal, scored by Chalmers in the fourth minute, was so unexpected that it completely threw the Portuguese team off their stride.

The pace set by the Scottish lads in this first half was fantastically fast and when the clock pointed to the ninth minute, goal number two came for Scotland via a Bennett-McLennan-McMillan combination with McMillan placing the ball out of Texeira's reach.

Portugal found their shooting boots midway in the second half after Scotland pulled further ahead with a third goal by injured Trotter who headed the ball past Texeira off a high lob by left-winger McClay.

This goal by Scotland, as it turned out, pulled the Portuguese team together for the first time and by the 30th minute centre-forward Rocha reduced the deficit with a surprise goal and later a penalty awarded to Portugal saw Rocha beating Brown all the way to make it 3-2.

It was at this period that rough play crept into the game with the result that what hitherto had been a clean, good match deteriorated to such an extent that it kept the referee busy. Referee Hancock was seen cautioning offenders and those who paid no heed to him trooped off the field without further ado.

Portugal, with ten men for most of the match, found their opponents' three goals lead too much for them, though to be fair they really deserved a drawn match if they had kept their heads cool. The final whistle came as a great relief to Scotland who won 3-2.

ENGLAND v CHINA

There was only one team in the picture in the England--China 8 p.m. encounter and that was the Chinese Combined side. With Yiu Cheuk-yin and Lee Yuk-tak and Mok Chun-wah in top form, this trio drew rings round England's defence and the three goals put in by China could have been doubled had the Chinese gone for goals.

Weak link in the Chinese Combined side was right-winger Chu Wing-wah who failed to live up to expectations, for whenever the ball went to Chu he made the mistake of trying to beat Charlesworth all by himself.

The Chinese Combined side is never representative without Chau Man-chi and this pint-sized centre-half last night was a stumbling block to England's forward line. Time and again when England was within striking distance there was Chau Man-chi in the way and though there were occasions when Morris, Blagburn and Moss did pass Chau, they fizzled out in front of goal with wide shots.

Charlesworth in England's goal was well worth his place, saving innumerable shots that would have been goals to a less attentive custodian. Defenders Brettle and Mullett were so overworked, it was a credit to them that they kept China from increasing their three goals lead.

WHIRLWIND FASHION

China started the match in whirlwind fashion and before the first minute the opening goal came when Yiu Cheuk-yin lofted the ball into the net the moment he got it from Lee Yuk-tak.

England had their first crack at Tam Nai-huen in the 12th minute, but the long range shot crashed in by Hogan sailed inimitably over the bar. The Chinese were back in the 14th minute with two near misses--the first by Hau Cheung-yau, who after drawing out Charlesworth placed the ball against the upright for a defender to clear, and immediately after this left-winger Mok Chun-wah's sizzling drive saw Brettle conceding a fruitless corner.

China were two up in the fifth minute as a result of a move started by Chau Man-chi which ended up with Mok Chun-wah tapping the ball over to Yiu Cheuk-yin to beat Charlesworth.

England sallied right into the attack immediately after the start of the second half, but they were beaten back to their half before they got anywhere near the box.

By the 10th minute it was as clear as night is from day that Combined Chinese were not very much concerned to score any more after their third goal put in by Hau Cheung-yau.

What spectators saw in the second half was more or less, a training session, an opportunity to try out the "Don Revie plan," a little touch of maestro Stanley Matthews by Mok Chun-wah thrown in for good measure and when the final whistle sounded there were none at Caroline Hill who weren't satisfied with the three hours' soccer in the cold stadium.

THE TEAMS
(England vs. China)

China: Tam Nai-huen (Sing Tao); Hau Ying-sang (Sing Tao), Lee Ping-chiu (Eastern); Chan Fee-hung (Kitchee), Lau Tim (KMB), Chau Man-chi (Eastern); Chu Wing-wah (South China), Hau Cheung-yau (South China), Lee Yuk-tak (South China), Yiu Cheuk-yin (South China), Mok Chun-wah (South China).

England: Charlesworth (Army), Brettle (RAF), Mullett (Army); Hogan (Army), Crompton (Army), Pickering (Club); Chesterman (Army), Moss (Police), Morris (Army), White (Army), Blagburn (RAF).

Scotland vs. Portugal

Scotland: Brown, McDonald, Martin, McInness, Trotter, Chalmers, Bennett, McLennan, Glasgow, McMillan, McClay.

Portugal: Texeira; Toledo, Peretra; F. Cunha, L. Cunha, A. A. Santos, J. J. Collaco, H. Mello, Rocha, J. Colman, Alberto.

ROYAL WIN AT SANDOWN

Devun Lock (7, R. Francis up) and Domata (14, Corbett up) taking a fence in the Sandown Handicap Chase on December 14. Devun Lock ran out the winner to provide another winner for its owner, the Queen Mother, who was at the course to congratulate the jockey.—Central Press Photo.

YESTERDAY'S RUGGER

Army Were Lucky To Beat The Rest By Such A Wide Margin

Says "PAK LO"

Yesterday evening after a fast and exciting encounter the Army left the field the victors over the Rest of the Colony by a comfortable 16 points (2 goals, 1 try, 1 penalty goal) to nil.

There was plenty of open play in this game and the spectators were treated to thrill after thrill as the ball was swung from one end of the field to the other.

The Army must consider themselves a little lucky to win by such a large margin, for their play did not deserve such credit. The passing of the Army threes was very bad at times, and they continually crowded their wings.

But behind them Rowe, playing excellently was always in position to cover up their errors and swing the Army back into attack. Had it not been for Rowe the Rest would have gone through to score quite a few times.

Gerrard, in the centre of the Army three line, played as he has not done since he returned to the Colony, and it was the old Gerrard with the clever sidestep who was on view, and he baffled the Rest defence quite often.

FRITTERED AWAY

Keir and Glen combined well for the Army and sent out some nice passes, which were all too often frittered away. The forwards, while they succeeded in getting the lion's share of the ball from the tight scrums, were overpowered in the lineouts and in the loose.

In the lineouts, though, the Rest made the fatal error of patting the ball back with the result that Cornch was all too often in trouble with the fast-breaking Army forwards.

In the Rest pack it was Penman who was without doubt the shining light. In his proper position of wing-forward he was a very real thorn in the side of the Army, and not only was his tackling full blooded but his covering was excellent and he also had some very nice runs on his own.

Lamb also had a good game, while the whole of the three line deserves praise. In attack they were definitely superior to the Army, their passing was crisper and they covered the ground quicker, and were always trying to open up the game, but Rowe was always there to stop them.

Lewis impressed most with some terrific bursts of speed down the wings. In defence the Rest were not quite as good as expected, for though they tackled well, they did not always tackle their own man with the result that the centres were often taking the Army wingers. The tackling on both sides was first class and a lesson to every rugger player in the Colony. In the Rest side, due to a misunderstanding, McGarrity was not available in time and his place was taken by Jackman.

THE GAME

The Army kicked off and attacked at once but they were held for about seven minutes, then on the Rest's 25 the Army were awarded a penalty for offside round the scrum, and Gerrard converted. 3-0.

Now it was the turn of the Rest and a nice run by Penman swung play back into the Army half of the field where about 35 yards from line the Rest were awarded a penalty for handling the ball after a tackle, but Johnstone missed.

Again the Rest pressed and for the next three minutes were never less than 10 yards from the Army line, but they could not break through; though at one point Lamb did cross the line but was brought back to a five-yard scrum, and a quick heel and a nice clearance by Rowe saved the day for the Army.

A few minutes later and Johnstone was given another chance, this time about 40 yards out, but again he missed the penalty kick.

Then, just before the end of the second half, the Rest patted the ball back from a lineout on their own 25 and Collett broke through to gather and pass on to Dowling and sent him over. Gerrard converted. 8-0.

While the Rest were still recovering from this blow Blincoe hammered another nail in their coffin when he got the ball on the half way line and with a perfectly straight run went clean through the Rest defence to score under the posts. Gerrard converted. 13-0.

Seconds after this Dowling was injured and had to leave the field for the rest of the game. Despite playing for the whole of the second half with only seven forwards the Army still managed to heel the ball back, though they did not get so much of it as before.

SECOND HALF

The second half was highlighted by some really good three moves and a terrific penalty attempt by Thomas from about 45 yards out. The ball hit the cross bar, but bounced the wrong way.

The next try was the best of the match. On the Rest's 25 there was a scrum and the Rest heeled and held the ball and pushed their way upfield, then they wheeled and took it at their feet, but Glen gathered it off their feet and streaked through to score beside the posts despite the attentions of the defenders. Gerrard surprisingly missed the easy conversion. 16-0.

A few minutes later and Thomas again narrowly missed a penalty conversion for the Rest, and with the Army on the attack the game finally ended.

THE TEAMS

Army: Rowe, Caine, Blincoe, Gerrard, Boorman, Keir, Glen, Collett, Barker, de Cordova, Kelly, Robinson, McCullagh, Dowling, McGahey.

Rest of the Colony: Johnstone, Lewis, Fraser, Valentine, Hobson, Jackman, Cornah, Gale, Knight, Shelley, Kerr, Lamb, Paige, Thomas, Penman.

ROCKY MARCIANO REIGNS SUPREME

New York, Dec. 29.

Rocky Marciano, World Heavyweight Boxing Champion, reigns supreme. This is the rating he receives from Mr Nat Fleischer, editor of the American "Ring" Magazine, in a review of boxing in 1955.

"Marciano has clearly proved that there is no heavyweight today who can hope to stand up against him," writes Mr Fleischer. "He rates supreme, in a class by himself without a serious contender."

He lists Marciano, Archie Moore (light heavyweight) and Carmen Basilio (welterweight) as the three outstanding World Champions.

"Moore has stood out by himself during the past 12 months. He has had no competition despite the rapid rise of two youngsters, Floyd Patterson and Willie Pastrano."

Mr Fleischer added, however, that either boxer was likely to take the title from Moore during the next year.

Moore defends his crown against Yolande Pompey (Trinidad) in London next March.

Mr Fleischer adds: "Basilio's thrilling performances in winning and then defending the title against Tony DeMarco place him above all in his division."
—Reuter.

Kurt Nielsen And Perry In Singles Semi-Finals

Calcutta, Dec. 28.

Bob Perry, USA, and Kurt Nielsen of Denmark, today moved into the Men's Singles semi-finals of the Asian Lawn Tennis Championships.

In their quarter-finals match Perry beat John Barrett of Britain 7-9, 6-3, 7-5, 6-3, and Nielsen beat India's S. Misra 7-5, 9-7, 7-5.

In the quarter-finals of the Women's Singles, Althea Gibson, USA, beat Germany's I. Vogler 6-2, 6-2. Britain's Angela Buxton beat Miss P. Sheikh, Pakistan, 6-1, 6-3.

Miss Kamo, Japan, in her second round match beat I. Woodbridge, India, 6-3, 6-0.

In the quarter-finals of the Men's Doubles, Sweden's Sven Davidson and Denmark's Kurt Nielsen beat Don Fontana, Canada, and K. Ram, India, 4-6, 6-4, 7-9, 7-5, 6-0. India's Naresh Kumar and Ramanath Krishnan beat Jack Arkinstall, Australia, and Iftikar Ahmed, Pakistan, 6-3, 6-0, 3-6, 6-1, and Ham Richardson and Bob Perry, USA, beat India's G. Vasant and Uday Kumar 6-2, 6-2, 6-2.—United Press.

SWEDEN WINS ICE HOCKEY MATCH AGAIN

Stockholm, Dec. 28.

Sweden won the second ice hockey match against Czechoslovakia here today by six goals to one.

Period scores 1-0, 2-0, 3-1.

In the two matches played for the international the Czechoslovaks, however got an overall win by 10 goals to seven. —Reuter.

SPORTS ROUND-UP

No More Fights For Jack Gardner Until Next April

Jack Gardner, former British Heavyweight Champion, will not fight again until he meets Don Cockell for the British and Empire titles at Earls Court on April 24.

Gardner a fortnight ago gained a controversial victory over Kitione Lave. The British Boxing Board of Control have asked to see the referee's score-card for that fight.

The Football Association still refused to recognise Sunday football in England. A resolution from the Birmingham FA calling for the affiliation of Sunday clubs was rejected last week. Last year at their annual meeting the Football Association agreed not to penalise Sunday footballers. But, they say, "we will not recognise, promote or organise football in this country on Sundays."

• • •

The South African Universities Rugby Football Team are to play three matches in England in the New Year. The 23-strong party arrives on January 29, and leaves on February 16.

• • •

The South African Athletic Council are to invite a British team to tour in 1957.

TRAINING SESSIONS

John Hewie, Charlton Athletic's South African born right-half and Gordon Pembery (left-half) don't have far to go for their daily training sessions. For they now live on the ground in houses built for them by the club. Charlton and England trainer Jimmy Trotter also lives at the ground. His cottage above the terraces overlooks the pitch.

• • •

Ron Barton, West Ham Light Heavyweight, has recovered from a back injury and has his next fight at the Albert Hall on January 4.

—(London Express Service).
(COPYRIGHT)

Furukawa Voted Top Athlete Of Year In Japan

Tokyo, Dec. 28.

Nineteen-year-old Masaru Furukawa, who set a new world swimming record of two minutes 33.7 seconds in the 200-metre breast-stroke in August, was voted Japan's top athlete in 1955 by an eleven-man committee last night.

Furukawa, a student of Nihon University in Tokyo, set his record during the Japan versus U.S. duel meet in the 50-metre Meiji pool.

The committee deliberated on the annual "Nippon Sports Award" of the newspaper Yomiuri Shimbun. It picked Furukawa from 20 candidates.

The committee picked the men's table tennis team that won the Swathling Cup at Utrecht as runner-up to Furukawa for the award.—United Press.

Luton Can Win Cup And "Team Of The Year" Tag

Says ERIC NICHOLLS

Take the 22 First Division clubs, add a sprinkling from Division Two, put the ingredients into a hat, wave a magic wand, and hey presto! You have the FA Cup-winners of 1956.

The snag to this arrangement is that it is only safe to wave your wand about a fortnight before the teams take the field at Wembley.

Forecasting results in the Cup is about as risky as predicting the state of the English weather. But just to show it's Christmas, here we go.

My team? Luton. With Portsmouth and Sunderland right behind them.

Yes, prepare to hang the "Team of the Year" tag on Luton. For them there is none of the glamour of the Arsenal of years gone by, or Sunderland and Wolves of today.

This is their first season in Division One. Already they have caused many eyebrows to be raised with storming wins, including a 5-1 result against Wolves. And they are well placed in the table.

TRIAL MATCHES

Very rarely do Luton go into the transfer market. Manager Dally Duncan believes in recruiting talent from the Luton area. Each season he holds trial matches for local youngsters. Many of them join Luton as amateurs, later to sign professional forms.

In their Second Division days Luton supplied England with a goalkeeper, Bernard Streten, and a centre-half, Sid Owen. They have a pair of Irish international full backs, Seamus Dunne of Eire and Tom Aherne of Ireland, and an Eire international inside-left, George Cummins.

This season, Ron Baynham has followed in Streten's footsteps, and seems established as England's goalkeeper. And Bob Morton is on the verge of international honours as a wing-half or centre-forward.

They are a team of stars, rather than a team with a star. And their fast, attractive football has shaken many a First Division side this season.

They have the big match temperament too. And can easily upset the big boys, as they proved against Wolves.

That is why I am backing them for the Cup.

Portsmouth, my second team, are a side who rely on football ability, rather than 'goals at any cost' methods. It has brought them the respect of all sides they have played against this year.

THE FUTURE

They are not doing as well as they might in the League. That is mainly because they are having difficulty in moulding a team that can play football and score goals.

But with the Championship a thing of the past—and possibly the future—for them, Portsmouth may well concentrate on the Cup.

And beware, when Portsmouth are on top form.

Of Sunderland, everything has been said. They were called the 'Bank of England' team after their £100,000 spending spree which brought them Billy Elliott, Ray Daniel and Ken Chisholm.

But even though the Roker Park side doing well enough in the League to suggest they will be up there with the leaders at the end of the season, they are noted more for their Cup exploits.

They may, if they get through their third round tie, switch their efforts to the Wembley trail.

PRESENT FORM

As Cup fighters, Newcastle cannot be entirely overlooked. But judging by their present form, they will need a lot of luck to progress in this year's competition. Charlton too, are no strangers to Wembley. But this is their Jubilee Year. And the League Championship is one honour that has so far escaped the lads from the 'Happy Valley' and veteran manager Jimmy Seed.

Manchester United and Blackpool can be counted out for obvious reasons. The Cup and League double has proved so elusive a capture, that most sides have given up all ideas of achieving it.

Judging by their present League positions, it will be in the league that they will shine.

—(London Express Service)
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Sports Diary

TODAY

Meeting

Executive Committee of HKAAA at Club Lusitano, 5.30 p.m.

TOMORROW

Golf,

Taggart Cup semi-final.

SATURDAY

Soccer

Div. 1: Kitchee v Police (Club) 3.30 p.m.; Army v South China (HK Stadium) 3.30 p.m.; RAF v Navy (Navy), 3.30 p.m.

Div. 2: Kitchee v Police (Club); Army v South China (HK Stadium); RAF v Jardines, (Navy). All matches at 3 p.m.

Div. 3: Tramways v Telcos; Dockyard v Dairy Farm. Both matches at Happy Valley at 3.15 p.m. Little Bay Wan v Solicitors; Kowloon v Telephone. Both matches at Happy Valley at 3.45 p.m. Prisons v KCRC (Sunday) at 3.45 p.m.

Div. 4: [illegible] v Navy (Happy Valley) and [illegible] v [illegible] (Happy Valley) 3.45 p.m.

Halberg Runs Mile In 4:02.2

Auckland, Dec. 28.

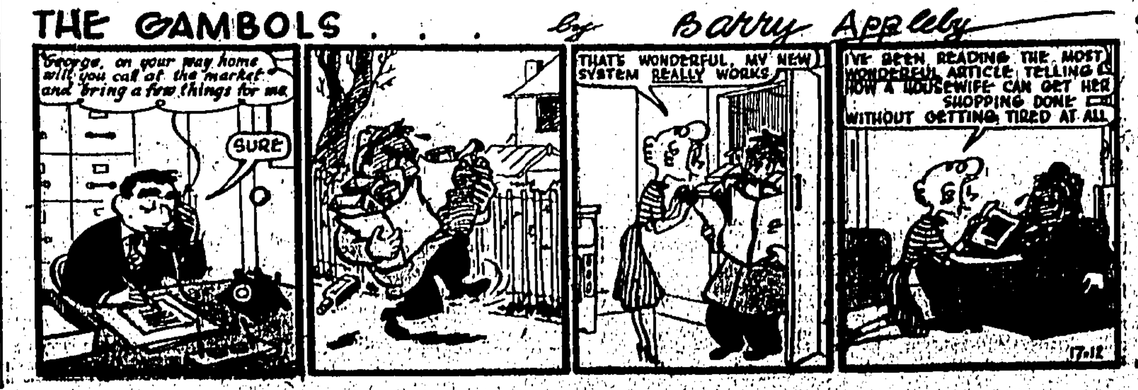
Murray Halberg, the New Zealand middle-distance champion, ran the mile in 4 mins. 2.2 seconds to-day to better his own New Zealand record.

Halberg beat Lon Spurrier, American holder of the world half-mile record, who finished second, 25 yards behind. W. Baillie was third.

United States champion Bobby Morrow ran a wind-aided 100 yards in 9.3 seconds, equalling the world mark.

The following wind was three feet a second beyond the allowable limit for international record. —Reuter.

THE GAMBOLS . . . by Barry Appleby



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GORDON PIRIE ATTACKS THE PRESS

London, Dec. 28.

Gordon Pirie, British distance runner, tonight made an unexpected attack on the press after receiving two awards at a reception here naming him as Britain's Number One Sportsman of the year.

Pirie was elected "Sportman of the Year" in a national ballot organised by the sports weekly, Sporting Record.

Television viewers of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) also picked him as the year's top sports personality.

After being presented with the Sporting Record Trophy, Pirie launched into an attack on the press and its British headquarters, Fleet Street.

He mentioned the Newspaper Sports Writers Association, who named John Disley, the International steeplechaser, as the Sportsman of the Year and said the sports writers had omitted Don Cockell, the British Heavyweight Boxing Champion, and he (Pirie) from their list of leading sportsmen.

IMMEASURABLE DAMAGE

Pirie said "Fleet Street has done immeasurable damage to British sport and a few unkind words will inflict more damage than they realise. I hope they will be kinder in future."

(The first six placings in the sports writers' list when they named their leading sportsmen last October were John Disley, Peter May (England cricket captain), Cliff Morgan (Welsh Rugby Union international), Brian Hewson (athlete), Stanley Matthews (soccer international), Norman Shiel (cyclist) and Stirling Moss (racing motorist).

(Shiel and Moss were joint sixth).

In today's Sporting Record allot the top six were Gordon Pirie, Chris Chataway, John Disley (all athletes), Billy Wright (England soccer captain), Brian Hewson and Stirling Moss.—Reuter.

MCC In Drawn Match Against Karachi CA

Karachi, Dec 28

An opening partnership of 104 by left-handers Peter Richardson and Brian Close was an encouraging feature of MCC's second innings batting in the drawn match against a strong Karachi Cricket Association side today

Close (66) batted more soundly than Richardson (60), who gave two chances but both kept the score moving at almost a run a minute, they snatched quick singles and punished anything short of a length.

The match, the first of the tour, petered out into a tame draw. MCC, declaring at 156 for three, left Karachi to get 276 in three hours 40 minutes for victory.

They scored 182 for four, test player Alimuddin, making 68.

Final scores: MCC 323 for five declared, and 156 for three declared.

Karachi 204 and 182 for four.

Alimuddin survived two chances in a stay of 90 minutes. He hit eight fours and was beginning to open out when he was well held by Parks to give Titmus his only wicket of the innings.

Peter Sainsbury, Hampshire's 21-year-old left-arm slow bowler, toiled throughout the innings for the fine figures of 20.3, 9, 24, 3. He had Raes Mohammad leg-before to the last ball of the match.

Sainsbury and Titmus (breaks) bore the brunt of the attack and were too accurate to enable the batsmen to attempt to force a win.

The second match of the tour against the Governor General's eleven begins here on Friday.—Reuter.

Sheffield Shield Cricket

Queensland Share Honours With South Australia

Adelaide, Dec. 28.

Queensland drew their Sheffield Shield cricket match against South Australia here today after being forced to follow on 165 runs behind.

Replying to South Australia's first innings total of 476 for seven declared, Queensland made 311 and 113 for three at the close.

Fast Bowler John Drennan, challenging for a place in the Australian side to tour England next summer, took six for 82 in Queensland's first innings and finished with match figures of seven for 95.

He is now considered a certainty for the Australian Test trial at Sydney next month.

Summarised scores — South Australia 476 for seven declared (C. Pinch 131 not out, G. Langley 97) Queensland 311 (W. Grout 72, P. Burge 55, R. Archer 51, Drennan six for 82) and 113 for three (Mackay 61 not out).—Reuter.

World Flyweight Title Fight

Buenos Aires, Dec. 28.

A contract will be signed late today for a World Flyweight title fight on January 7 between Champion Pascual Perez of Argentina and challenger Leo Espinosa of the Philippines.

The match was previously postponed because of injuries Perez suffered in his fight with another Filipino, Danny Kid. The title bout will be held in Luna Park Stadium.—United Press.

SOCCER ON THE INSIDE

EDITED BY SAM LEITCH & TERENCE ELLIOTT

Trace the plunge in Swansea's fortunes to the injury of stalwart centre-half Tom Kiley. Only one point has been won from the last ten.

Swansea paid out around £1,300 for Tom Brown who was playing with Llanelly although on Doncaster's books. But centre-half Tom, at the moment, is not speeded up to Swansea standard.

Here's a tip for Ronnie Burgess. He will be sympathetically received by Cardiff City for their reserve centre-half John Frowen. For around £5,000 they could boost their promotion hopes again.

• • •

Soccer officials from Malta arrived in London recently looking for a club to tour the George Cross island But they stressed it must be a goal-scoring League side.

In stepped Leyton Orient with 27 goals in five matches to clinch the tour. So it's Malta in the summer for a four-match tour, three games against local sides and one versus a touring Italian team.

CUP CLASH

England "B" left-back Jim Langley was changing after last week's Cup clash with Norwich when a fan handed him a brown paper parcel and said, "Here's another thousand, Jim."

Smiled Langley: "That brings my collection to 35,000. I have been collecting them since I was five. It's my only hobby."

What were they? Cigarette cards!

• • •

Scottish League Champions Aberdeen did not forget the man who steered them to victory last season. Dave Halliday, now such a success with Leicester City, made the 420-mile journey to Aberdeen for the club's celebration dinner the other day.

BLACKPOOL STAR

New player-manager of Tranmere Rovers, who failed in their bid for Harry Johnston, Blackpool star who took the Reading job has been appointed.

They found him near home. He is their inside-right Noel Kelly, former Eire international, signed from Notts Forest last summer.

• • •

Don Roper, Arsenal captain and inside-forward, will decide this week about taking over York City's player-managership. Don and his wife went to York, toured the city and inspected a house.

—(London Express Service).
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AT LAST—BRITAIN HAS A FLEDGLING DEMPSEY

Says ALAN HOBY

Is Britain incapable of breeding a boxer with the punch, nerve, and mental viciousness to win the greatest prize in sport—the Heavyweight Championship of the world?

Dear old Bob Fitzsimmons in the moustache cup age of 1897 was the last Britisher to sit on the throne now occupied by Rocky Marciano.

It is a shaming story.

In 58 years, 13 Americans, one Australian, one German and one Italian have held the title with not a solitary Englishman, Welshman, or Scot among the lot.

"Bombardier" Billy Wells, Joe Becket, Phil Scott, Tommy Farr, Bruce Woodcock, Don Cockell—they all failed. Every one wound up either horizontal, or helpless, or battered and beaten.

But the scene has changed. NEVER in the whole history of British boxing has the Heavyweight outlook been brighter

In the past month I have seen not one, but FOUR young Heavyweight "hopes" capable of treading the pain-racked road to the top.

MUSKETEERS

Even more encouraging, three of this quartet of muscular Musketeers pack a knock-out punch. The fourth is the smartest man seen over here since Tommy Farr's day.

The formidable four are:—

Dick Richardson, 21, from Newport. Fourteen months ago Richardson, scowling and tousle-haired, was a big, bumbling novice.

Today, out of 18 bouts, he has won 15—14 inside the distance.

Brian London, 20, powerful, hard-hitting son of the ex-British Heavyweight Champion, Jack London.

Undefeated, young London last week registered his 9th professional win out of 10 when he stopped burly Basil Kew in two rounds.

Henry Cooper, 21, blond, handsome Heavyweight from Bellingham. Another K.O. specialist, Cooper, was recently beaten on points by Joe Erskine in a title eliminator and is currently nursing a damaged hand.

Joe Erskine, 21, from the tough Tiger Bay district of Cardiff. Dark, dedicated and immensely strong, the craftly Erskine is unbeaten in 28 professional contests.

Now I'm going to stick my chin out. As I see it, the biggest "natural" of the four is the husky Richardson.

I believe Erskine, with his wearing-down tactics, will be British heavyweight champion within 12 months.

Yet somehow, for all his skill and stamina, I can't see the patient Joe plodding on to win the world title.

PERFECT BUILD

Richardson, on the other hand, is a fledgling Dempsey. Not only has he the perfect build for a Heavyweight—he stands 6ft. 2ins. and weighs 16st.—but unlike Erskine, he can belt them out with either hand.

Temperament? Richardson's manager, Wally Leslie, declares: "With very fight his head gets smaller.

"He knows he still has a lot to learn and he listens to everything you tell him."

But what I like best about this young man with the hulking shoulders is the way he reacts to punishment.

Once I saw him leap up like a tiger after being floored and left hook his astonished opponent to merciful oblivion. To dredge-up an ancient cliche, Richardson has the "killer streak".

So, of course, has Brian London, who despatches his victims with equal ferocity. That's why both he and Richardson are being kept apart.

They are both so stubborn that if they clashed they could easily destroy one another . . .

As for Henry Cooper, I hope I'm wrong, but I suspect that, despite his ability and keenness, he may lack the basic toughness of the others.

Now it is up to one of MY angry quartet to imitate the spartan training schedules of Rocky Marciano and dedicate himself to winning the most glittering crown of all.

And my tip is Richardson . . .

—(London Express Service).
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CUP SHOCK WINS ARE GOOD FOR FOOTBALL

Says STANLEY MATTHEWS

So the little clubs have done it again! Isn't it odd how every year we find some non-League club coming up from nowhere to hammer one of their big League brothers?

There have been suggestions that the Cup be restricted to League clubs only, but I think much of the drama would go with the departure of these non-League giant-killers.

Many are fighting for League recognition. They struggle year after year in the wilderness, and the Cup gives them their opportunity of self-advertisement.

And, remember, these clubs are training ground for many of our future League stars.

The feats of Boston, Bedford, Worksop and Burton make good reading—they give bite to the competition.

And don't get the idea that the big clubs look down on these games. They don't.

LITTLE FELLOWS

You cannot afford to treat any club lightly, especially in the Cup, where tension and atmosphere count for a lot.

I say good luck to the little fellows—only keep away from Blackpool.

A final word on Nat Lofthouse, I am glad to see the Bolton and England leader hitting the goals again. Here you have a grand club player who will pull himself apart to get his team into winning brackets.

He ran into a lot of criticism recently—but that comes to us all. The old Lofthouse spirit seems unquenchable. Back he comes every time like a football jack-in-the-box.

You can't ignore him. He is a dangerous centre-forward when he hits form.

—(London Express Service).
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St. John Ambulance Orders

Orders by Mr Fung Ping-fan, C.St.J. Commissioner of St. John Ambulance Brigade Hongkong District. Order No. 52/55. Dated December 29, 1955.

Ambulance Duties — Hongkong.—1.1.56.-7.1.56. Wanchai "A" Amb. Div.; 8.1.56.-14.1.56. Wanchai "B" Amb. Div.; January 1956: Chung Sing Nsg. Div.

Ambulance Duties — Kowloon.—2.1.56.-8.1.56. KYMCA Amb. Div.; 9.1.56.-15.1.56. Mong Kok Amb. Div.; January 1956: KYMCA Nsg. Div.

Penetration Squad Duties.—1.1.56. New Year Holiday, cancel duty; 8.1.56. Dr H.P. Yew, Dentist, H.K. Shields, C/S Z. el Arculli & HK YMCA Nsg Div.

Orderly Duties for Mainland Arts Hqts.—29.12.55. KYMCA Amb. Div.; 30.12.55. Tsimshatsui Amb. Div.; 31.12.55. Kong Wah Amb. Div.; 1.1.56. Tsimshatsui Amb. Div.; 2.1.56. Nsg. Div.; 3.1.56. Mong Kok Amb. Div.; 4.1.56. Kowloon Amb. Div.

13th Exhibition of Hongkong Products Duties.—29.12.55. Shaukiwan K.F. Amb. Div & Western Dist. Nsg. Div.; 30.12.55.-31.12.55. Shaukiwan K.F. Amb. & Nsg. Divs.; 1.1.56.-2.1.56. Causeway Bay Amb. & Shaukiwan K.F. Nsg. Divs.

Race Duties.—2.1.56. At Race Course, KCOB Amb. Div. At Headquarters, Wanchai "A" Amb. Div.; 14.1.56. At Race Course, Wanchai "A" Amb. Div. At Headquarters, KCOB Amb. Div.

Street Sleepers Shelter Society Duties.—Shamshuipo: January 1956. Waterloo Nsg. Div.; Western Dist.: January 1956—King's College Nsg. Div.

Mong Kok KFWA Amb. Class Duties.—30.12.55.-31.12.55. Waterloo Nsg. Div.; January 1956: Shamshuipo Nsg. Div.

R.S.P.C.A. Society for the Prevention of Children — Kowloon.—30.12.55.-31.12.55. Shamshuipo Nsg. Div.

(Sgd.) F. T. Tsang, C.St.J.
Deputy Commissioner,
District Headquarters.

DOHERTY WARNS UNSCRUPULOUS TALENT SPOTTERS....KEEP OFF ALICK JEFFREY

By JAMES CONNOLLY

Alick Jeffrey, the Doncaster boy wonder, is 17 next month, but Peter Doherty doesn't plan to sign him as a professional immediately.

The Doncaster and Ireland manager knows that unscrupulous talent spotters have been trying to get at his talented, £7-a-week ground staff boy, but he wants Alick to be at the Melbourne Olympics, if England qualifies.

An amateur international, Jeffrey is probably the best prospect for his age in Great Britain. He has been a first team regular at Doncaster for 12 months.

Doherty knows the risk he runs and comes right out with a fighting challenge. "When Alick turns professional it will be with Doncaster. I warn the back-door merchants to keep away from the boy.

"I know many of them would like to move in, but if any approach is made in the next few weeks it will be reported to the FA immediately."

A GOOD RUN

West Bromwich, slipping after a good run, search for a top inside man. They have made inquiries for Don Revie (Manchester City), George Hannah (Newcastle), and Eddie Baily (Spurs).

The £30,000 price tag which Manchester City pin on Revie, scared them off; Newcastle turned them down, and they haven't quite made up their minds on an outright bid for Baily, or to go in for Denis Emery (Peterborough).

The Revie fee has also put Villa off. At the moment Manchester City haven't had a firm offer.

• • •

Stoke City may bring the first Russian footballer into our Football League.

He is Marcel Bong, 21-year-old rightwinger, now an engineering student in Bremen.

He wrote manager Frank Taylor some time ago asking for a trial. Now he has written to say that he will be over in February.

• • •

Clubs are getting ready to do some big unloading. Walsall offer Eire international Dave Walsh, Worcester cricketer George Dews, and Hugh McLaren, the former Derby left-winger, for sale.

West Bromwich transfer list inside-forward Bill Hodgkinson at his own request. They might also take the right offer on Johnny Nicholls.

Norwich can offer players in most positions and Liverpool have five or six players on sale including Derek Healy, 20-year-old former Leyton Orient inside-forward.

SHREWDEST BUYS

Credit Leicester manager Dave Halliday with one of the shrewdest buys of the season.

He bought Willie Gardiner, 26-year-old centre-forward, for a matter of £3,000 from Glasgow Rangers during the close season.

Today Gardiner has a valuation of around £10,000 after scoring 20 goals in 16 first-team games and £20,000 leader Derek Hines finds himself in the reserves.

• • •

Swindon's Cup victory at Peterborough might bring a pleasant surprise to the players.

Early in the season, when gates slumped, Swindon players took £1 a man wage cut.

Early in the New Year the board will meet to decide whether in view of the Cup run they can restore the cuts.

Man behind the Swindon success is player-coach Geoff Fox. Both victory goals came from moves he planned.

Full-back Geoff, a part-timer, only meets the boys on match days and the odd evening. But he leaves complete instructions with Tony McShane, whom he has appointed as senior professional.

—(London Express Service).
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Laugh, Clown!

By DILYS POWELL

London.

For once I can say that the film which gave me most pleasure during the week was an operatic film—not, I admit, the usual endurance test but a forty-minute anecdote devised, I imagine, mainly for overseas audiences.

"On Such a Night" describes the visit to Glyndebourne of a young American (David Knight) who, following the crowds he sees at Victoria Station in evening dress on a summer afternoon, finds himself in a theatre in Sussex listening to "The Marriage of Figaro."

The script is by Paul Dehn, Anthony Asquith has directed. But none of the talented contributors, I am sure, will wish to deny that the opera is the thing; when the music fades one cries to dream again.

This little spell-binder is in the programme at the Gaumont with "Simon and Laura," to which I shall come presently. First I must say something about "The Road ("La Strada") at the Curzon.

Ever since it was shown during the 1954 Venice Festival one has been hearing about this Italian film.

It has won prize after prize; Italy adores it; France is crazy about it; the young director, Federico Fellini, has given a new lease of life to Italian neo-realism; his wife Guilietta Masina, the star, is the toast of the Continent, and even in England I have heard sober elderly men remark that the girl has something.

At first the applause surprised me, for when I saw the film at the Italian Festival in London I thought it lugubrious and disagreeable. But surprise dwindled to curiosity, and it was with a desire to learn what I had missed that I hurried off for a second look.

HALF-WITTED GIRL

"The Road" is the story of a half-witted girl from a starving family who is bought as an assistant by a drunken brute of a street entertainer. His methods of instruction are simple; he beats her.

The pair wander the roads; they join a travelling circus, but the man is thrown out for fighting with an acrobat who makes fun of him.

The girl, at first dimly resentful of her master's animal indifference to her feelings, is presently persuaded that he needs her—a conviction which does not prevent the association from breaking up, after a bit of murder, in desertion and a rather spiritual type of delirium tremens.

The film is admirably played, and the fact that the two leading actors, Anthony Quinn and Richard Baschart, are Americans and that their voices are consequently dubbed, never destroys illusion. But it is on the portrait of the girl that the film depends. Giulietta Masina plays her with an urchin cut, a tomboy walk and four expressions; interest, injury, gratification, ecstasy.

It is an effective performance. But pathos, I take it, is intended, and I have difficulty in finding pathos in a performance so reminiscent of Harpo Marx.

Though melancholy is there all right, not only in the playing and the story (by Fellini himself), but in the setting of forlorn beaches, rainy towns, empty plains under snow.

I begin to think that one of the reasons for the success so far is the fairground subject. Continental audiences, especially intellectual ones, find in the circus a mystical significance which escapes me; they like to think of the performers as victims of sexual torment and Weltschmerz instead of the hard-working people I have always imagined packing up at the end of the day for a hearty meal of garlic sausage or stewed scragend.

One must not underestimate the lure in this case of the recurrent and to me, I fear, peculiarly mawkish musical theme. Nor must one underestimate Fellini, whose direction powerfully evokes squalor, deformity, mournful destitution. A gifted man; but it seems to me that his gifts are rightly seen not here but in "I Vitteloni," which, I am glad to hear, is coming to London next year.

UNUSUAL PIECE

I have not the space I should like for discussing "The Night of the Hunter" (London Pavilion; "X" certificate), a version of David Grubb's novel about the psychopathic preacher, the widow he marries and kills for her money, and the children who know where it is hidden.

It is a curious and unusual piece, full of literary dialogue, a good deal of which doesn't come off, full of visual symbolism, a good deal of which does.

The weakness is in the casting: Shelley Winters is unequal to the part of the widow, and the preacher surely should have been played not by Robert Mitchum but by Charles Laughton, who instead directs; only Lillian Gish has the right feeling. All the same this murky film (script by James Agee) is neither boring nor risible.

"Simon and Laura" (Vista-Vision; director Muriel Box), a Technicolour version of Alan Melville's play about the quarrelling stage couple who appear on the domestic screen as turtle-doves, gave me several loud laughs. Good satire on television (I enjoyed Brian Wilde's sketch of the man interviewed after crossing the Channel in some unsuitable craft. I forget what); likable performances by Peter Finch, Kay Kendall, Muriel Pavlow, Hubert Gregg and a daisy from Ian Carmichael.

"The Tall Men." (Carlton; CinemaScope; director Raoul Walsh.) Hearty, coloured, uninventive Western about a cattle drive. With Clark Gable, Jane Russell.

NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

The Programme and Entry Forms for the 5th Race Meeting 1955/56 to be held on Saturday, 14th January, 1956, (weather permitting) may be obtained at the Secretary's Office, Alexandra House; the Club House, Happy Valley; and the Stables, Shan Kwong Road.

Entries close at 12 o'clock NOON on Wednesday, 4th January, 1956.

By Order of the Stewards,
A. E. ARNOLD,
Secretary.

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

FOURTH RACE MEETING

Tuesday 27th December, 1955 & Monday 2nd January, 1956

(To be held under the Rules of the Hong Kong Jockey Club)

THE PROGRAMME WILL CONSIST OF 20 RACES.

The First Bell will be rung at 11.30 a.m. and the First Race run at 12.00 Noon on both days.

The Tiffin Interval is after the Fourth Race (1.30 p.m.) each day.

The Secretary's Office at Alexandra House will close at 10.00 a.m. on both days.

MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE

NO PERSON WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED.

All persons MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the meeting.

Admission Badges at $10.00 each per day are obtainable through the Secretary on the written or personal introduction of a Member, such member to be responsible for all visitors introduced by him.

Tiffins will be obtainable at the Club House if ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 72811).

NO CHILDREN will be admitted to the Club's premises during the Meeting. For this purpose a Child is a person under the age of seventeen years, Western Standard.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission will be $3.00 each per day payable at the Gate.

Any person leaving the Enclosure will be required to pay the requisite fee of $3.00 in order to gain re-admission.

MEALS and REFRESHMENTS will be obtainable in the RESTAURANT.

SERVANTS

Servants must remain in their employer's boxes except for passing through on their duties. They may on no account use the Betting Booths in the Members' Enclosure.

CASH SWEEPS

Through Cash Sweep Tickets at $20.00 each per day and $40.00 for both days may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices at Queen's Building, (Chater Road), and 5, D'Aguilar Street during normal office hours and until 10.00 a.m. on the day of the Race Meeting.

Particular numbers within the series 1 to 3,000 may be reserved for all race meetings as Through Tickets. Such tickets will be issued consecutively only and the right is reserved by the Stewards to cancel any reservation for Through Tickets for a particular Meeting if it is found that sales may not reach the number reserved in the series 1 to 3,000.

In the case of two-day Race Meetings, Through Tickets may be purchased for each day of the Meeting provided that the second day is on a date not less than five days after the first day. In all other cases Through Tickets will only be sold for the whole Meeting.

Tickets reserved and available but not paid for by 10.00 a.m. on Saturday, 24th December, will be sold and the reservation cancelled for future Meetings.

Tickets over 3,000 will also be issued consecutively but particular numbers cannot be reserved as Through Tickets.

The reservation of any particular number does not confer on the registered holder any rights whatsoever unless the ticket bearing the appropriate number is issued to and can be produced by the holder.

The Stewards reserve the right to refuse any subscription also the right to remove any name from subscription lists without stating reasons for their action.

Cash Sweep Tickets on the last race of the Meeting at $2.00 each may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices at Queen's Building (Chater Road), 5, D'Aguilar Street and 382, Nathan Road during normal office hours and until 10.00 a.m. on both days of the Meeting.

SPECIAL CASH SWEEP

Tickets for the Special Cash Sweep on the Pearce Memorial Cup scheduled to be run on 4th February 1956, at $2.00 each, may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices.

TOTALISATOR

Backers are advised not to destroy or throw away their tickets until after the "all clear" signal has been exhibited.

ALL WINNING TICKETS AND TICKETS FOR REFUNDS MUST BE PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT AT THE RACE COURSE ON THE DAY TO WHICH THEY REFER, NOT LATER THAN ONE HOUR AFTER THE TIME FOR WHICH THE LAST RACE OF THE DAY HAS BEEN SCHEDULED TO BE RUN.

PAYMENTS WILL NOT BE MADE ON TORN OR DISFIGURED TICKETS.

Bookmakers, Tic Tac men, etc. will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of the Hong Kong Jockey Club.

By Order of the Stewards,
A. E. ARNOLD,
Secretary.

CHINA MAIL

HONGKONG
PUBLISHED DAILY
(AFTERNOONS)

Price, 20 cents per copy,
Saturdays 30 cents,
Subscription: $6.00 per month.

Postage: China and Macao $3.00 per month, U.K., British Possessions and other countries $7.00 per month.

News contributions, always welcome, should be addressed to the Editor, business communications and advertisements to the Secretary.
Telephone: 25611 (5 Lines).

KOWLOON OFFICE:
Salisbury Road.
Telephone: 64145.

Classified Advertisements

20 WORDS $4.00
for 1 DAY PREPAID

ADDITIONAL INSERTIONS
$2.00 PER DAY
10 cents PER WORD OVER 20

Births, Deaths, Marriages, Personal $5.00 per insertion not exceeding 25 words, 25 cents each additional word.

ALTERNATE INSERTIONS
10% EXTRA

If not prepaid a booking fee of 60 cents is charged.

FOR SALE

JAPANESE GIFTS—Various charming dolls, new creation bamboo lacquered contemporary household ware. Please shop at Lyceum, 18 Jordan Road, Kowloon.

MISCELLANEOUS

COCKTAIL PARTIES. Novel invitation cards on sale "S. C. M. Post," Hongkong and Kowloon.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

Consignees per

CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

ss "MONKAY"

are hereby notified that their cargo will be discharged into the Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd's godown where it will be at consignees' risk and subject to the wharf's terms and conditions of storage, and where delivery may be obtained

Damaged packages are to be left in the godown for examination by consignees' and the company's surveyors, Messrs Goddard & Douglas at 10 a.m. on Saturday, 31st December, 1955.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the godown and all goods remaining undelivered after the 1st January 1956 will be subject to rent.

All claims against the vessel must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 24th January, 1956 or they may not be recognised

No Fire Insurance will be effected

CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

Hong Kong 28th December 1955

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

"TIPENOR"

Damaged cargo ex this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at Holt's Wharf from 10 a.m. on December 30 and 31, 1955, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present during the survey

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents

Hong Kong December 28 1955

To ADVERTISERS

SUNDAY POST-HERALD
Space for commercial advertising should be booked not later than noon on Wednesdays.

For the SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST and the CHINA MAIL, 48 hours before date of publication.

Special Announcements and Classified Advertisements as usual.

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P.O. Box 53 Queen's Building Tel: 26651

FAST PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

"VIETNAM" ..... Sailing Dec. 31st
"CAMBODGE" ..... " Jan. 28th } to Marseilles
"LAOS" ..... " Feb. 25th

FAST FREIGHT SERVICE

"MONKAY" ..... Sailing Jan. 16th
"DONAI" ..... " Feb. 6th } to N. Africa/Europe

BEACHCOMBER BARS HAVE DISAPPEARED

Pacific Islanders Must Have Drinking Permits

Suva, Dec. 28.

The sordid little bar on a coral island, where beachcombers drink to forget after their remittances arrive, has vanished from many Pacific islands.

Travellers passing through Suva from all the islands which a succession of novelists have made famous, are unanimous in their report: "You have got to have a permit to get a drink now."

Tourist-conscious Fiji and some of the French possessions are the most liberal in their drinking laws, the travellers report, but on most of the other island groups red-tape measures to save islanders from unrestricted liquor have made life hard for the casual visitor.

But there are still no picturesque little bars in Suva. Hotels here follow the Australian and New Zealand pattern, where licensees must also provide accommodation.

Large Bars

Drinking takes place in large public bars, with smaller saloons in surroundings which would seem familiar in any Australian or New Zealand city.

Local liquor laws close the hotels rigidly at 10 o'clock each evening, and the only unfamiliar sight in Suva bars is a big notice reading "Permits must be produced at all times."

There are no restrictions on drinking for Europeans, but the law requires all Fijians and Indians to have permits from the police before they are allowed to drink in public places. Barmen must insist on would-be drinkers producing these permits.

Police may ask for the withdrawal of the permits if the drinker causes any disturbances.

In New Zealand-controlled Western Samoa, the authorities have rationed liquor. Visitors are allowed a total of 24 points a month

A bottle of beer equals one point, but a bottle of whisky or other spirits requires eight points

For permanent residents, a special board grants allocations depending on income, position and responsibility. Natives may also apply for points.

In Clubs

One traveller told me that the customs duties on liquor support the local hospital and there is a strong medical representation on the board which grants the permits.

In American Samoa, most drinking is done in private clubs. These operate on a chit system of tokens. The books of chits can be sold only to members.

The New Zealand-administered Cook Islands are officially dry, but permits are available for Europeans. In some places, local medical officers sign the permits

Tonga, domain of Queen Salote, is also dry, although Europeans are allowed to drink in their clubs there. For visitors, however, getting a drink in Nukualofa, the capital of Tonga, is very hard as club membership requirements are strict.

Few Restrictions

Tahiti and New Caledonia have few restrictions on the sale of liquor. Both these French colonies have comfortable hotels, travellers report, although with the establishment of the South Pacific Commission headquarters in Noumea much of the hotel accommodation there is taken up for official visitors and guests.

According to tourists' reports, the restrictions on liquor in the Pacific Islands, do not worry the islanders unduly. Those who want to drink can easily brew palm toddy, which is said to be "quite potent."

In Fiji, drinking of kava is part of local ceremonial. This drink is prepared from the roots of a pepper-like plant, crushed and then infused in a wooden bowl.

Bitter Drink

To the clapping of hands, guests drink kava from coconut shells. The drink is numbing and bitter.

But particularly on Fiji, mission influence is very strong and many natives observe the discouragement given by the Methodist Church to drinking. There is also a strong element which favours prohibition among the big Indian community here, who would oppose any plan to liberalise drinking. —China Mail Special.

New York, Dec. 28.

The next meeting of the United Nations Security Council on Syria's demand for sanctions against Israel is not likely to take place until the new year.

Informed sources said today that it was unlikely that the Council would be convened this week.—Reuter.

Tear Gas In Nicosia

Tear gas bombs exploding in Metaxas Square, Nicosia, the Cyprus capital, when demonstrators tried to turn the funeral of a shot terrorist into a political procession. — Central Press Photo.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hongkong. The listed posting times elsewhere which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office.

The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mails can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

NEW YEAR ARRANGEMENTS

On Monday, January 2, 1956, the public counters at G.P.O. and C.P.O. Kowloon will open for public business from 9 a.m. to Noon. The Sheung-wan Post Office will open from 9 a.m. to Noon and Wanchai from 10 a.m. to Noon for sale of postage stamps only. All other Branch Offices will be closed.

The box lobbies at G.P.O. and C.P.O. Kowloon will open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sheung-wan from 9 a.m. to Noon and Wanchai from 10 a.m. to Noon only.

There will be one general delivery commencing at 10 a.m. and one collection from all pillar boxes.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29
By Air

Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain and Europe, 6 p.m.
Thailand, Burma, India, 6 p.m.
By Surface
Japan, 3 p.m.
Korea, 4 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30
By Air

Formosa, Japan, Korea and Okinawa, 10 a.m.
Guam, Hawaii, U.S.A., 1 p.m.
Philippines, Australia, New Zealand, 2 p.m.
Formosa, 6 p.m.
Korea, 6 p.m.
U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain and Europe, 6 p.m.
Japan, 6 p.m.
By Surface
China, People's Republic, 9.30 a.m.
Macao, 1 p.m.
Japan, U.S.A., C. & S. America, 1 p.m.
Rabaul, 2 p.m.
Philippines, Indo-China, 4 p.m.
Australia, New Zealand, 4 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31
By Air

Peking, Shanghai, Hankow, Kunming, 9 a.m.
France, 10 a.m.
Thailand, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand & Ceylon, 11 a.m
Indo-China, Noon.
Philippines, 1 p.m.
Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 6 p.m.
Formosa, Japan, Okinawa, Korea, 6 p.m.
Hawaii, U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
By Surface
Formosa, 9 a.m.
China, People's Republic, 9.30 a.m.
Macao, 1 p.m.
Indo-China, France, 4 p.m.
China, People's Republic, 6 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

SOME POTATO

Kampala, Dec. 28.

A freak sweet potato, weighing 26½ lbs has been grown by an African at Bar, in Northern Uganda. Despite its phenomenal size, it was quite palatable. —China Mail Special.

MONGKOK FIRE

A fire broke out on the third floor of 36 Shantung Street, Mongkok at 9.45 this morning.

Three fire engines were sent to the scene and the firemen took about half an hour to put out the blaze. The third floor of the building was extensively damaged; two flats in adjacent buildings were also slightly affected.

Two persons suffered minor injuries.

Portuguese Will Be Able To Buy Own Flats

Lisbon, Dec. 28.

Many middle class Portuguese will have the opportunity of purchasing their own flats in large blocks of flats as a result of a decree recently published in the official gazette here.

Issued under the title "horizontal property," the new decree is aimed at solving the problem of obtaining adequate accommodation in the central areas of Lisbon, thus relieving some transport difficulties and preventing unnecessary building of self-contained houses on land more appropriate for agriculture purposes.

The practice in the past has been for those who could afford it to purchase a plot of land on the outskirts of cities and build a villa of independent design. This, however, has caused a great waste of land and created problems of transport to work. Moreover, only a minority could afford to purchase the land, which cost in some, fashionable though distant areas as much as over 600,000 escudos (over £7,000 sterling).

Use Air Space

It is expected that with the new decree, under which air space will be utilised instead of land space, a flat will cost about 250,000 escudos (just £3,000 sterling). Even this will be beyond the reach of many Portuguese if they have to find cash.

Building societies, however, were formed some years ago with a view to assisting people with moderate salaries to purchase their own homes.

These societies charge a monthly repayment equivalent to the monthly rent of a dwelling house, approximately 1,100 escudos (about £14) for a flat with four rooms, kitchen, bathroom and lavatory.

Some people are already buying their own homes in this way and there is a provision that in the event of the death of the purchaser, the remaining balance will be paid by insurance, the insurance being incorporated in the monthly payments.

The system has also existed in regard to thousands of Government houses built for the working classes. But most of these are situated in the suburbs and are small and detached.

The expansion of Lisbon since World War II, thanks both to Government and private enterprise, has been remarkable.

Thousands of new houses, both built by the Government for the working classes and residential buildings incorporating flats built by private concerns have been erected over a widespread area.

All this has caused a transport problem which is not yet solved.

Not Able To Cope

Until World War II, Lisbon was entirely dependent, for collective transport, upon the tramway system, slightly augmented by a few bus companies operating to distant suburbs.

But today the tramway company has a large new fleet of British buses, both single and double decker, which are serving the new areas.

These are not, however, able to cope with the ever increasing need for transport and work is now in progress on an underground railway system.

The "horizontal property" decree provides for the purchase of flats not only in new buildings but also in existing buildings.

It is expected that, as a result of this decree, a considerable amount of old property will be demolished, and new flats built on the site.

Demolition has, in fact, already been taking place—106 buildings were demolished in Lisbon between January and September 1955 alone. Although many new land areas are being developed for residential purposes, builders prefer to rebuild on old sites in the central areas. This is partly because property in the central area is more valuable and partly because it is easier to build on foundations which already exist.

As a result, there is hardly a street in Lisbon of reasonable length which has not already some new building being constructed.

A Disadvantage

Lisbon is thus fast becoming a multi-styled city, with buildings hundreds of years old standing side by side with the most up-to-date, fashionable and modern architecture.

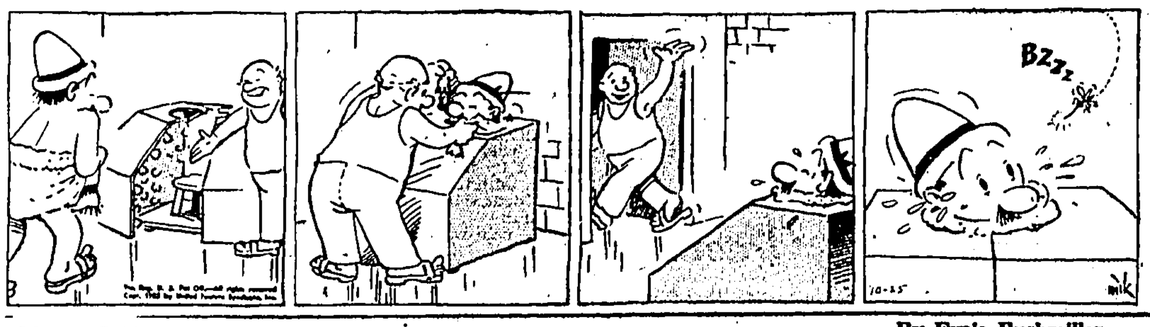
There is, however, one disadvantage to demolition—tenants who are turned out for their homes to be pulled down are usually paying low rents and they find it most difficult to obtain other accommodation at a similarly low rent.—China Mail Special.

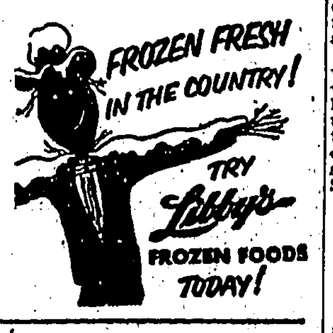
MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis

FERD'NAND

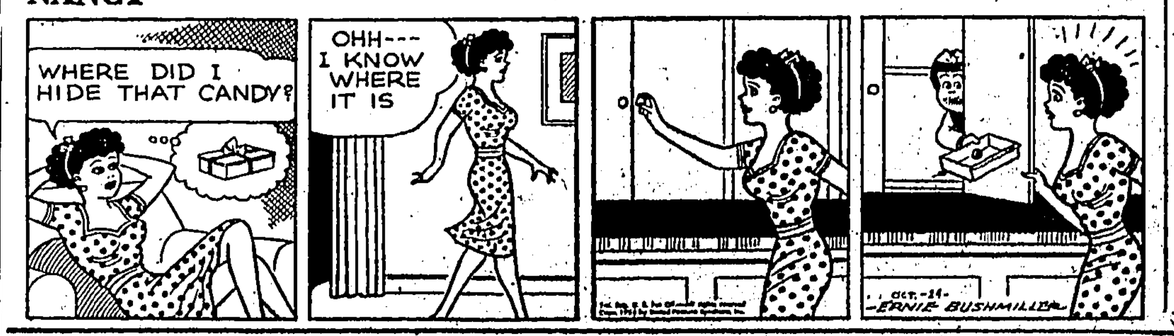
By Mik





NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins

...this situation calls for a
San Miguel

REMANDED

Six men who pleaded not guilty through their counsel Mr M. G. Laing with attempting to export specified articles without a licence, were remanded until January 16 by Mr F. K. D'Almada at Central today.

Defendants are Lee Bun, 30, motorcycle broker, Lee Nai, 30, fokl of the Wun On Transportation Co., Chow Wai-lun, 30, garage fokl, Leung Ying-kui, 38, fokl of the Wun On Transportation Co., Tso Tung, 39, fokl of the Wun On Transportation Co., and Leung Kai, 36, master of the junk No. M485T.

They were alledged to have attempted to export two Plymouth cars on Christmas Eve at Stanley, without a licence.

Div. Det. Insp. A. Askew is prosecuting.

HAD CAT MEAT

"It was cat meat and not dog meat," exclaimed 44-year-old Cheung Woon when he was charged with possession of dog meat before Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning.

Cheung was then fined $100 or 30 days by Mr Lo after the charge had been amended to cat meat. Defendant was seen on Wednesday evening with the meat wrapped in local newspaper at Clifton Bazaar.

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

WORLD RUBBER MARKETS

New York, Dec. 28.
Rubber futures today closed 70 to 130 points lower with sales of 328 contracts.

The easier trend reflected the lower primary markets overseas and the lack of follow-through commission house buying.

About a third of the business was represented in dealer switching operations. Exchange included July-May at 180 and 185 points; Sept.-July 150 points and May-March 380 points difference.

The spot market was dull. Reported sales included a small tonnage on March threes at 43 cents a pound. Futures:

March	44.70-80
May	40.85
July	39.10
Sept.	37.70
Dec.	36.00

SINGAPORE

The market was lethargic all day with small interest in lower grades. Futures:

No. 1 rubber per lb	Jan.	128¾-129
	Feb	127¾-128
	Mar	unquoted
No. 2 rubber per lb	Jan	125¼-120¾
No. 3		124¾-125¼
No. 4		117½-118½
Spot rubber unbaled		127¾-128¼
Blanket crepe		90-101
No. 1 pale crepe		140-141

LONDON

The market was barely steady with spot quoted at 37½ per lb. Prices:

No. 1 Rss spot	37¼-37⅝
Settlement house term:	
Feb.	37-37¼
Mar.	36⅝-36⅞
Apr/June	35½-36
July/Sept.	33½-33⅞
Oct./Dec.	31⅛-31⅝
General markets, cif basis ports	
Jan.	36⅛-37¼
Feb	36⅛-36⅞
Estate crepe thick and thin both unquoted.	

—United Press.

London Stocks

MODERATE INVESTMENT SUPPORT

London, Dec. 28.
Moderate investment support helped most sections show gains in quiet trading on the London Stock Exchange today.

Oils were firm, although Royal Dutch eased about £¼. British Petroleum, Burman, and Canadian Eagle all found support and managed gains ranging to a shilling or more.

Buying was slow to develop after the extended Christmas holidays. Then selected industrials got help from American interests and moved ahead. Borax, Electrical & Musical Industries, Rolls-Royce, Imperial Chemicals, and Stewart & Lloyds were features.

Gold shares and base metals were idle, and British Governments closed virtually unchanged.

Among foreign bonds, Japanese liens found support and Tokyo Electric paced a general advance with a gain of £1. German issues were quiet. Greek bonds tacked on gains of several shillings.—United Press.

UK Cotton Grey Cloth Imports

INDIAN SHIPMENTS EXPAND: OTHERS STATIC

London, Dec. 28.
Although United Kingdom imports of cotton grey cloth in November remained around those of the preceding months, shipments from India expanded again to the best total since August, imports from Japan however dropped to the smallest monthly total of the year.

During the first 11 months of this year imports of this cloth already exceed last year's total imports with India supplying nearly half of this total.

United Kingdom cotton cloth imports in November totalled 17.2 million square yards, according to the latest Board of Trade figures. This compares with 17 million square yards in October and 21.1 million square yards in November 1954.

India sent 11 million square yards in October and 7.9 million square yards in November last year. Japan only 1.6 million square yards against 3.5 million square yards and 8.1 million square yards and Hongkong 3 million square yards against 3.3 million square yards and 2.9 million square yards respectively.

First 11 Months

Cloth imports for the first 11 months of 1954 reached 253.5 million square yards against 206.7 million square yards in the same period last year and only 86.1 million square yards in 1953, thus exceeding last year's 12 months total of 236.4 million square yards.

India's contribution to the 11 months total was 124.6 million square yards compared with 115.1 million square yards a year ago and only 11 million square yards two years ago.

Japan supplied 61.4 million square yards against 41.5 million square yards last year and 38 million square yards in 1953, and Hongkong exported 44.5 million square yards against 15 million square yards in 1954 and only five million square yards in 1953.—China Mail Special.

Rye Futures Improve In Chicago

Chicago, Dec. 28.
Rye futures picked up gains of about a cent a bushel on the Board of Trade today, but other grains held steady.

Dealings in wheat were mixed, with some buying attracted on prospects of export sales in the near futures and on reports that southwest winter wheat areas need moisture, but rallies met profit-taking.

Pending export business in soybeans and edible oils helped bean futures earlier today, but the announcement that the Government has released a large amount of peanuts for oil had a depressing effect on the soybean market.

Exporters reported the sale of two-million bushels of US grain sorghums to the Continent overnight and said Portugal is scheduled to buy a cargo of US wheat tomorrow.

Wheat closed off ⅛ to ⅝ cents; soybeans old up ¾ cent; soybeans new off ⅝ to up ⅝ cent.

Prices per bushel in cents:

CLOSING PRICES

Wheat, No. 2, red			
Spot			212n
Mar.	209.½ (H)	208⅝ (L)	208⅞-¾
May			204⅞-¼
July			194⅛
Sept.			196¼
Corn, No. 2, yellow			
Spot			128
Mar.			128¾
May			131⅛-¾
July			134⅛
Sept.			133⅞
Rye			
Mar.			121¼
May			121
Oats			
Mar.			65⅞
May			64⅛
Soybeans, No. 2, yellow			
Spot			237¾
Jan.			239¾-½
Mar.			243⅛-¼
May			243¾-½
July			241½
Sept.			232-231¾
Barley,			
Spot			130-140n
New York flour			
200 lb. sack			$13.40n

WINNIPEG PRICES

Prices of grain futures closed today in cents per bushel as follows:

Oats	
Dec.	77½
May	72⅞
July	69⅞
Rye	
Dec.	105¼
May	108⅞-109
July	107⅞
Barley	
Dec.	101⅛
May	99¾
July	90
Flaxseed	
Dec.	360
May	356⅛
July	347½-¾

Wheat, No. 3, northern, 101¾ cents; No. 5, 123 cents.
—United Press.

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to $640,000. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

SHARES	BUYERS	SELLERS	SALES
BANKS			
HK Bank	1750		31 @ 1750
INSURANCES			
Union	950		11 @ 940
Lombard	55	50	200 @ 50½
Underwriters		9.60	
SHIPPING			
Waterboat	23.30		
DOCKS, ETC.			
K. Wharf	68		
Dock	30	30½	500 @ 30¼
Provident (O)	15.00	15.90	
Wheelock	8.35	8½	1000 @ 8.45
LAND, ETC.			
HK Hotel	17.00	17.80	300 @ 17.80
HK Land	63½	63½	100 @ 63
" (Rts)	35		18 @ 35
			155 @ 35
Realty		1.025	
RUBBER			
A. Rubber	1.90	2	
UTILITIES			
Tram	23½		1300 @ 23.70
Star Ferry			100 @ 137
Yaumati Ferry	102	104	200 @ 103
C. Light (O)	23	23.20	500 @ 23.10
			100 @ 23
C. Light (N)	16.90	17.30	500 @ 17.30
Electric	42½	42.75	2300 @ 42.75
			500 @ 42.50
			100 @ 42.75
Telephone	33	33½	633 @ 33½
			500 @ 33½
			500 @ 33½
INDUSTRIAL			
Cement	37	37¼	3200 @ 37
STORES, ETC.			
Dairy	19.40	19.50	100 @ 19½
Watson	13.20		500 @ 13.30
COTTONS			
Textile Corp	5.80	5.90	16,000 @ 5.85
MISCELLANEOUS			
Entertainment			350 @ 18½
Yangtsze	6.60		
Allied	5.45	5.55	3000 @ 5½

Singapore Stock Market

Singapore, Dec. 29.
Brokers today quoted the following stock prices:

	Opening
Batu Lintang Rubber Co. Ltd.	$1.80 cd
British Borneo Petroleum Syndicate	46/-
Consolidated Tin Smelters Ord.	30/-
Fraser & Neave Ltd Ord.	$1.70
Fraser & Neave 7½ cum. pref	$6.00
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corp.	$905
Hongkong Tin Ltd.	8/-
Kempas Ltd.	$2.15 xd
Lunas Rubber Estates Ltd.	$4.05
Malayan Breweries	$3.35
New Serandah Rubber Co. Ltd.	$1.90
Petaling Tin Ltd.	$4.30
Raffles Hotel	$2.35
Singapore Cold Storage	$1.90
South British Insurance Co. Ltd.	$27.50
Straits Trading	$28.75
Straits Steamship	$12.80
United Engineers Ord.	$9.80
Wearne Bros.	$2.80

—China Mail Special.

Germany Objects To US Rubber Split System

Frankfurt, Dec. 28.
The West German rubber industry regards the recently introduced system of split prices for synthetic rubber in the United States as a discrimination against foreign buyers of United States rubber, industrial sources said.

Prominent representatives of the industry pointed out at a recent meeting that the new system of different domestic and export prices for United States synthetic rubber was not in accordance with general principles of United States trade policy.

They feared that higher export prices might seriously affect cost and price relations of the industry which to the growing extent depended on imported synthetic rubber.

Of the total of about 16,000 tons of synthetic rubber imported by West Germany in the first 10 months of this year, more than 10,000 tons came from the United States.—China Mail Special.

WORLD COTTON MARKETS

New York, Dec. 28.
Cotton futures trading today continued to be a tame holiday affair.

On small operations between trade accounts, prices seesawed over a narrow range, keeping close to the previous levels most of the time.

Realising at the close brought irregularity with the list finishing 6 points lower to 11 points higher. Opening prices were up 1 to 11 points. New Orleans closed unchanged.

In addition to the holiday feeling, traders were cautious about entering new commitments pending developments on farm legislation and commencement of the Government's cotton surplus sales programme after the New Year.

On January 3, the Commodity Credit Corporation is scheduled to accept, or reject, bids for the sale of around a million bales of shorter staples from the Government stock.

Some traders were doubtful about the amount of cotton which may be sold initially overseas until they can learn more about what level of bids will be acceptable to the agency.

Raw cotton exported for the season thus far approximates 670,000 bales against 1,546,000 bales shipped to the same time last year. Some quarters were hopeful of increased shipments when the Government sales programme gets into operation.

The certificated stock held unchanged at 17,883 bales.

Volume and open interest were:

Month	Volume	Open interest
March	12,100	404,900
May	17,100	538,800
July	6,000	248,000
Oct.	4,100	188,400
Dec.	5,000	141,200
Mar.	900	51,500
May	200	14,300
Total	45,400	1,587,700 bales

NEW YORK

Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	35.05n
Mar.	33.00
May	33.24
July	31.82
Oct.	30.08
Dec.	29.91
Mar.	29.91
May	29.53

NEW ORLEANS

Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	33.60
Mar.	33.01
May	33.26
July	31.81
Oct.	30.09
Dec.	29.89
Mar.	29.70
May	29.54

LIVERPOOL

Future closings, in pence per lb. were as follows:

Old contract	Dec./Jan.	29.70
	Mar./Apr.	26.40
	May/June	24.70
	July/Aug.	23.65
New contract	May/June	25.05
	July/Aug.	26.00
	Oct./Nov.	24.65
Egyptian Karnak	Jan/Feb.	39.20

SAO PAULO

Future closings, in cruzeiros per kilo were as follows:

March	28.50
May	28.60
July	28.70
Oct.	30.45

In the US the average price of 15/16 middling cotton at 14 designated spot markets today was 33.77 cents per lb. Sales totalled 13,899 bales.

KARACHI

The market was featureless today within narrow fluctuations owing to holiday feeling. Prices closed in rupees per maund as follows:

4F Punjab roller gin	[illegible]
289 F Sind roller gin	[illegible]
Saw gin	[illegible]
289 F Punjab roller gin	[illegible]
Saw gin	[illegible]

—United Press.

US Economy Should Rise To New Heights In 1956

By Robert F. Morison

Washington, Dec. 28.
Commerce Secretary Mr Sinclair Weeks predicted today the soaring American economy will rise to new heights during the first half of 1956, paced by the steel, auto and construction industries.

He also foresaw a "little" upturn in the farm economy, a "good chance" of a balanced budget and no "crash" potentialities in the current stock market situation.

Mr Weeks ducked any prediction of a tax cut in 1956, but said if it comes the "emphasis" should be "on relief to the consumer."

The Commerce Secretary made his rosy forecast of an even bigger boom in 1956 in a radio interview.

He backed it up by releasing a comprehensive survey of major industries showing that nearly all segments expect to continue at or above current high level at least through next June. Highlights of the survey showed:

AUTOS: Output expected to hit 4,250,000, a boost from the 4,227,000 produced in the first half of 1955. Truck production, which saw its best year in history in 1955, slated to show a "sizable increase" in the January-June period. The survey did not indicate whether it took into account the Ford Motor Company's statement last week that its 1956 production schedules had been reduced.

CONSTRUCTION: Estimated 1956 spending on all new construction at 44,000,000,000 dollars, a five per cent boost from 1955 record. This despite an anticipated drop of 100,000 in new home construction.

IRON AND STEEL: Current record-breaking production expected to continue through next June, making the first half of 1956 one of the highest "if not the highest" in history.

Mr Weeks, in the radio interview, said the auto industry's big output in 1955 was "very influential" in bolstering the economy. He called the industry a "great barometer" economic health along with other heavy industries and construction.

He said he personally watches construction "very closely" and "I like the way I read" its prospective increase in 1956.

Up A Little

Mr Weeks said that while farmers "have shared to the degree that people generally have" in the current business boom, "I think the turn is going to be up a little, rather than the other way...."

He did not elaborate. The Agriculture Department's latest economic analysis forecast a somewhat lower income for farmers in 1956 compared with this year, when their prices and income were falling.

Mr Weeks did not go deeply into the subject of the budget or taxes, except to say he thinks there is a "good chance of balancing the budget this year." This presumably referred to the current fiscal year ending next June 30.

While declining to say directly if he favours a tax cut next year, he said it was "almost axiomatic" that the lower the tax bill "the better off the people will be because then their efforts are towards creating wealth."

He said that out of the 1954 tax cut, about 66 per cent went to consumers and the rest to industry. In any new cut, he added, "I would personally rather see the emphasis placed ...on the relief to the consumers."

Discussing the booming stock market, Mr Weeks said he saw "no comparison" with the market situation in 1929 "insofar as potentiality of a crash is concerned."

He said the market today has "built-in safeguards" such as big permanent investments in stocks by insurance firms and pension funds and a high 70 per cent margin requirement.—United Press.

New York Sugar Market

New York, Dec. 28.
World No. 4 sugar futures today closed unchanged to 1 point higher with sales of 88 contracts.

Domestic No. 6 sugar futures closed unchanged to 1 point lower with sales of 41 contracts.

World futures were steady with trade house on both sides of the market.

World raws held steady. Dealers understood further bids had been submitted to the Cuban sugar institute for additional supplies at 3.25 a pound.

However, the institute reportedly did not take action on the bids following its recent sales of around 100,000 tons to various operators and dealers said prices on the institute sales range from 3.18 to 3.25 cents a pound, fob futures. Futures:

Contract No. 4 (world)

March	3.22
May	3.22
July	3.23
Sept.	3.22
Spot-(cents per lb. fob Cuba)	3.23

Contract No. 6

Mar.	5.33
May	5.38
July	5.48
Sept.	5.51
Spot-(cents per lb. cif NY ex-duty)	5.33

—United Press.

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Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local unofficial exchange market this morning at the following rates:

U.S. dollar (per $1)	5.81
Sterling notes (per £1)	15.30
Australian notes (per £1)	12.00
Indonesian rupiah (per 100)	15.60
Siam tical (per 100)	26.00
Singapore (Straits)	1.80

London Foreign Exchange

London, Dec. 28.

New York	2.80⅝-2.80¾
Montreal	2.80-1/16-2.80-3/16
Amsterdam	10.62¾-10.63
Brussels	139.60-139.65
Copenhagen	19.33⅝-19.33⅞
Frankfurt	11.71½-11.71¾
Milan	1753-1754
Paris	983¼-983¾
Stockholm	14.51¾-14.52
Zurich	12.24⅛-12.24⅜

Others were unchanged.—United Press.

New York Stocks Still Irregular

By Elmer Walzer

New York, Dec. 28.
Stocks continued in an irregular routine pattern today.

A few issues moved a point either way but for the most part fractional changes were the rule. Trading was moderately active.

There was little in the new either to stimulate new market interest or to prompt selling of any importance.

Auto shares, which dropped sharply yesterday on talk of reduced production schedules for 1956, continued easier and active. General Motors opened on a 9,000 share block at 46⅞, off ⅛, then dipped to $45¾. Chrysler eased ⅝ to $87.

Steels were narrow. Bethlehem dipped ¼ to $162½, US Steel edged up ⅛ to $57½. Republic ⅛ to $48⅛ and Youngstown Sheet & Tube ⅝ to $97⅝.

In oils, Texas Co. added ½ point to $118½, Standard of California ⅝ to $90, Sinclair Oil ⅛ to $57⅞.

Dow-Jones closing averages were:

30 industrials	484.22
20 rails	163.00
15 utilities	64.30
65 stocks	171.85
40 bonds	98.00
Comm. future price index	152.63
Moody's index	406.20

Closing Prices

Alden Inc. Acy.	$23¼
Allied Chemicals	115¼
Allied Mills Inc.	34½
Allis Chalmers	68⅛
American Airline	24
American Cyanamide Co.	67⅛
Am Mach. & F dry	20⅞
American Metal	50¼
American Smelting	49⅛
American Tel & Tel	180⅛
American Tob. "B"	79⅛
Anaconda Copper	70
Armco Steel	53⅞
Armour	17½
Baldwin-Lima-Ham.	14½
Baltimore & Ohio	40¾
Bendix Aviation Corp.	58⅝
Benguet Cons.	2
Bethlehem Steel	163½
Boeing Airplane	78½
Borden (The) Co.	61½
Burroughs Add Machine	30⅝
Canadian Pacific R.	33⅞
Case (J. I.) Co.	18⅛
C.I.T. Financial Corp.	44⅞
Cat. Tractor	60
Celanese Corp.	21
Chase Manhat. Bank	61⅞
Chrysler Motors	87⅛
Colgate-Palmolive Co.	60⅞
Commercial Credit	50½
Commonwealth Elec.	41¼
Consolidated Edison	47⅞
Continental Oil of Del.	99
Continental Steel	[illegible]
Corn Products	[illegible]
Crane Co.	37⅞
Crown Zellerbach	57
Cuban Amer. Sugar	13½
Curtis Wright	[illegible]
Diamond Alkali	[illegible]
Dow Chemicals	[illegible]
Dupont de Nemours	[illegible]
Eastman Kodak	[illegible]
El Paso National Gas	48
Erie Railroad	22⅜
Family Finance Corp.	24⅛
General Electric	55⅛
General Foods	93¾
General Motors	45⅜
Gen. Pub. Util.	36⅞
Gillette Safety Razor	64⅛
Glidden Co.	39¼
Goodrich (B. F.) Co.	88
Goodyear Tire	64½
Heyden Chemical	18¾
Homestake Mining Co.	35⅛
Ingersoll-Rand	94⅞
Inland Steel Co.	67¾
Int'l Business Machines	409
Int'l Harvester	36⅛
International Nickel	81¼
International Paper	112⅛
Int'l Tel & Tel	29⅛
John-Manville Co.	90⅜
Kansas C. Power & Light	39¾
Kennecott Copper	118½
Lockheed Aircraft	53
Loews Incorp.	19½
Lone Star Cement Co.	71½
Lowenstein & Sons	27½
Mesabi Iron Corp.	43¾
Minnesota Mining	109
Mission Development	29½
Monsanto Chemical Co.	45¾
Montgomery Ward	93⅛
Motorola Inc.	55⅞
National Cash Reg. "A"	36⅛
National Dairy Prod.	39⅛
National Distillers	21⅛
National Steel Corp.	70⅛
New York Central	45⅜
Olin Mathieson	55⅛
Otis Elevators	75¾xd
Owen-Illinois Glass	63⅛
Pacific Gas & Elec.	49⅛
Pacific Western Oil	43⅛
Pan American Airways	17⅛
Paramount Pictures	36⅛
Parke Davis Co.	40½
Penny J. C. Co.	98
Penn. Salt Co.	48⅛
Philip Morris	46
Philips Petroleum	81⅝
Proctor & Gamble Co.	100
Pittsburgh Plate Glass	81¼
Publicker Industries	9¾
Pure Oil	37⅜
Radio Corporation	46¾
Republic Steel	48
Reynolds Metal	51⅛
Shell Oil Co.	64½
Saint Reg. Paper	43½
Sinclair Oil	57⅞
Socony Vacuum	65*
South Porto Rico Sugar	27⅛
Southern National Gas	34⅝
Southern Railway (Com.)	110¼
Standard Brands	39¼
Standard Oil of Cal.	89¾
Standard Oil of Ind.	50¼
Standard Oil of N.J.	152
Sterling Drug Co.	58⅛
Stokely-Van Camp.	20⅛
Studebaker-Packard Corp.	10⅛
Swift & Co.	47⅛
Texas Co.	118½
Tide Water Asso. Oil	33⅛
Twenty Century Fox Film	25⅛
Union Carbide	180¼
Union Pacific Railway	127¼
U.S. Gypsum	[illegible]
U.S. Line Co.	22⅛
U.S. Rubber	[illegible]
U.S. Smelting	[illegible]
U.S. Steel	57
Warner Bros.	19½
Westinghouse Electric	[illegible]
West Va. Pulp & Paper	46
Woolworth	47½

—United Press.

New York Foreign Exchange

New York, Dec. 28.

England official	[illegible]
30-day futures	[illegible]-1/16
90-day futures	[illegible]
New Zealand	[illegible]
South Africa	[illegible]
Holland	[illegible]
Chile	[illegible]
Uruguay	[illegible]

Others were unchanged.—United Press.

WORLD MERCHANT FLEETS

Norway, Germany And Holland Step Up Size

London, Dec. 28.
Norway, Germany and Holland led all other European nations in stepping up the size of their merchant fleets during the past year, Lloyd's register of shipping showed today.

But the world's biggest merchant fleet was still that of the United States, which topped even the combined total of all British Commonwealth nations.

Britain, Norway, Liberia and Panama had the four next highest totals, in that order, according to figures compiled last July.

Liberia's merchant fleet, entirely a postwar development, is based largely on the Onassis and Niarchos tanker fleets. During the past year, Liberia showed an increase almost as large as the total merchant fleet of Denmark.

Combined Fleets

The world's combined merchant fleets totalled 100,569,000 tons, an increase of 3,147,000 tons over the previous year. Tanker fleets amounted to 26,456,000 tons, or 26 per cent of the world's total. The increase in tanker fleets during the past year amounted to 1,631,000 tons, a third of which went to Liberia.

But despite the growth of Liberia in oil tanker shipping, Britain was still in first place, followed by the United States and Norway, with Liberia in fourth place. The Panamanian tanker fleet was the world's fifth largest.

Russia showed a moderate increase in its total merchant shipping during the year.

Statistics

Statistics on total fleets of leading maritime nations:

United States — 26,423,000 down 921,000; Britain — 19,357,000 up 342,000; Norway—7,249,000 up 444,000; Liberia—3,997,100, up 1,616,000; Panama, 3,923,000, down 168,000; France—3,922,000 up 82,000; Italy—3,911,000 up 112,000; Japan 3,735,000 up 157,000; Netherlands—3,696,000, up 253,000; Sweden—2,601,000 up 100,000; Denmark—1,852,000 up 38,000; Germany—2,650,000 up 420,000; Russia—2,506,000 up 135,000; Spain 1,352,000 up 74,000; Greece—1,245,000; up 89,000; Argentina — 1,043,000 down 14,000.

Leading tanker fleets:

Britain—5,[illegible]1,000 up 306,000; United States—4,[illegible] down 374,000; Norway—4,17[illegible],000 up 373,000; Liberia—[illegible],000 up 660,000; Panama — 2,134,000 down 173,000.—United Press.

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MILITARY FUNERAL

The funeral of the late L/Cpl N. Scott of B Troop 56 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, took place with full military honours at the Protestant Cemetery at Happy Valley this morning.

Scott succumbed to injuries received on the afternoon of December 24 when the jeep he was travelling in overturned in the New Territories. He died on Christmas morning at the 33 General Hospital. He was 23.

The funeral procession, which consisted of a firing party, an escort party, the pall-bearers and the gun carriage, proceeded from the RHKDF Headquarters to the cemetery.

The chief mourner was Lt.-Col. A. H. G. Dobson, Officer Commanding the 24 Field Regiment, RE.

The parents of the deceased are in the United Kingdom.

The Rev. D. F. Baxter and the Rev. S. G. Ogden, Chaplains to the Forces, officiated.

The firing party, after firing three volleys, presented arms while the bugler sounded the Last Post.

Wreaths were sent by Mother and Father; Lt-Col. and Mrs A. H. G. Dobson; All Ranks of the 15 Field Squadron; B Troop 56 Field Squadron, RE; the Officer Commanding and All Ranks of 56 Field Squadron, RE; All Ranks of 24 Field Engineer Regiment, A and C Troop of 56 Field Squadron, RE.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

JIM WAITS FOR THE PHOENIX

THEY lived in a house in North London, Jim and his wife. They were both old-age pensioners, but they were both young in spirit, and Jim, at 76, insisted on working whenever he could in a job that is not one for weaklings—gardening.

The couple worked hard, and were happy, and then, one day last summer, tragedy hit them, and hit them hard. The house they occupied was burned down.

Neither Jim nor his wife was physically injured, but their morale was dealt a savage blow by the fire. For they, who had cherished their independence so, now had nowhere else to go but to a home for old people in which the local council found them places.

POCKET MONEY

JIM and his wife were received with every sort of kindness at the home. But with the best will in the world, those who ran the place could not make it match up, in the eyes of Jim or his wife, to the home they had lost.

There was the question of money, for one thing. Now, when they drew their pensions, the couple had to hand over the money to pay for their keep. That done, each was dealt out pocket money, in the way that children are. Each was given three half-crowns a week.

Worse still, to Jim's mind, were the problems that arose when he declared that he was of no mind to be idle.

"I'm a working man," he said. "I want to go on working."

The authorities heard him out. Then they said: "There's nothing to stop your working, but you must hand over to us what you earn."

Jim started work again. But it went against the grain with him, this handing over of his money, and as he stooped over the flower beds of London gardens, he slowly worked out a plan for putting an end to the arrangement.

THE PLAN

ONE day he announced to the institution: "I'm leaving. The old lady'll stay here—just now, anyway—but I'll take care of myself, so's I can keep what I make."

Perhaps he had a plan for earning enough for himself and his wife one day to achieve independence again. Certainly, he spent very little money on himself, but worked for all the hours that he could and spent his nights in lodging-houses.

But without his wife, he let himself go to pieces a little. He grew careless of things like washing, and became so grimy that the time came when lodging-houses would not take him in.

CAN HE GO BACK?

THEN, the other day, Jim, who had never in his life been in trouble for crime of any sort, turned thief. Perhaps it was another manifestation of his loneliness, but whatever it was he was caught stealing five boxes of cheese from a restaurant.

Jim was brought to Bow Street, a gnarled, slightly stooping, black-haired man. He pleaded guilty and the story was told to Sir Laurence Dunne, the chief magistrate.

"Can he go back to the home where his wife is?" Sir Laurence asked.

"Well, sir, he's got into a rather poor physical condition," said a policeman.

The chief magistrate nodded and turned to his probation officer. "You might find out if he can go back, will you?" he said, then to Jim "I'm going to remand you and let the doctors look at you."

Jim nodded, a bleak sort of gesture, without much hope in it, then he limped out. Perhaps by Christmas he and his wife would be together again—in the home for the old.

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Radio Hongkong

H.K.T.
6 Time Signal and Programme Summary; 6.03, Stock Market Report; 6.06, For the Children. "The House at Pooh Corner." By A. A. Milne. Episode 4: "Rabbit's Busy Day" (BBCTS); 6.30, Portuguese Half Hour (studio); 6.50, Weather Report; 7, Time Signal and The News (London Relay); 7.09, Commentary (London Relay) or Special Announcements; 7.15, Boulevard Cafe; 7.30, Beginner's Please. 5th Edition of Radio Hongkong's Amateur Talent Show. Compere: John Wallace. Produced by Hilary Green (Concert Hall); 8, What's the Form (Recorded London Relay); 8.15, V.O.A. Hit Parade; 8.45, Piano Miniatures; 9, Time Signal. "Coronations Played For." A Radio Portrait of Sir Walter Alcock. Written by Denis Constanduros. Produced by Martin Willson (BBCTS); 9.30, At the Opera. "Dido and Aeneas" (Purcell). Principals with the Mermaid Singers and Orchestra cond. by Geraint Jones; 10.30, Melodias Espanolas (with vocal); 10.59, Weather Report; 11, Time Signal. Radio News Reel (Recorded London Relay); 11.09, Goodnight Music. God Save The Queen; 11.30, Close Down.

REDIFFUSION

3.30 p.m. Novatime; 3.45, "Bleak House" by Charles Dickens; 4, Tea Time Rendezvous; 4.30, Vocally Yours; 4.45, Dossier On Demetrius; 5, Children's Corner—Conducted by Auntie Val.; 5.30, Teen-Time—Presented by Betty Souza; 6, Tropicana; 6.15, Birthday Mailbag; 6.15, Music Maestro—Presented by Jerry Lewis; 6.45, Shadows of Doubt; 7, Time Signal and The News; 7.09, Weather Report, Announcements and Interlude; 7.15, Violin Melodies; 7.30, Coke Time; 7.45, Ralph Marterie and His Orchestra; 8, Personality Parade — Noel Coward; 8.15, Melachrino Musicale; 8.30, Scotland Dances; 9, Variety Ahoy with Richard Murdoch and Kenneth Horne From H.M.S. Pembroke; 9.30, Square Dancing; 10, Cafe Continental; 10.30, Old Time Ballroom; 11, Date With Dreamland; 11.30, Prelude to Midnight; 12 Midnight, God Save The Queen, Close Down.

Big Opium Haul

Raw opium, weighing 244.3 pounds, found in the engine room of the ss Dataki on December 7 was confiscated by Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning.

General Sugden's Successor Arrives

Lt-General W. H. Stratton, CB, CVO, CBE, DSO, who succeeds Lt-General Sir Cecil Sugden, KCB, CBE, as Commander, British Forces, Hongkong at the end of the month, arrived here by BOAC this morning.

He was met at the airport by Col. N. D. Leslie, Chief of Staff, Land Forces, Hongkong, Lt. J. H. Pain, ADC to Gen. Stratton, Capt. W. Batty-Smith, ADC to Gen. Sugden, Major C. S. Turner, Army PRO, Group Capt. A. J. M. Smyth, Officer-in-Charge, RAF Station, Kai Tak, and Capt. G. R. Steer, BOAC, Far East sales manager.

The party left Kai Tak by Gen. Sugden's launch for Flagstaff House.

CIRCUMSTANCES OF ARREST QUERIED

Queries regarding the circumstances of the arrest of second accused were put to a detective at the trial of two men accused of robbing a police inspector at the Criminal Sessions this morning.

The accused are charged before Mr Justice J. R. Gregg with robbery with violence. They are Choy Ching-kung, alias Ma Tsui, and Yeung Chi-yeung.

The charge alleges that Choy and Yeung on August 2 robbed Sub-Inspector Kenneth Harry Wheeler of a wrist watch, a cigarette lighter, a pair of tweezers, one Hongkong dollar in coins, three grammes of heroin and five of barbitone.

The offence is said to have taken place while compainant was taking a drug suspect to the Police Station.

Second accused alone faces an alternative charge of assaulting complainant and occasioning him actual bodily harm.

Mr Brook A. Bernacchi is defending second accused; instructed by Mr P. C. Woo. Mr W. S. Collier, Crown Counsel, is prosecuting, assisted by Detective-Inspector A. Anderson.

Mr R. G. Barradas, Government chemist, testified this morning that he examined the contents of an envelope given him by Police Corporal 1774 and found them to be heroin. He made out a certificate and gave it and the contents of the envelope back to the corporal.

MADE ARREST

He also received an envelope containing a substance which he found to be barbitone, classified as a Part One poison. He also made out a certificate in respect of the barbitone and handed the certificate and the contents of that envelope back to the corporal.

DPC Ng Fung, of CID Western, said he arrested second accused near the junction of Queen's Road West and Curry Lane on September 20. Second accused was walking with two other persons at the time. With the aid of a constable and another man, he arrested second accused, who put up a struggle.

Cross-examining, Mr Bernacchi asked witness what his reason was for arresting second accused. Ng replied that he suspected him at the time of being a returned banishee. When he saw second accused, the latter appeared to be frightened.

COVERED EYE

Asked if he was in the habit of arresting people who appeared to be frightened, witness said that in addition to appearing afraid, second accused tried to cover up his left eye when he caught sight of him.

Questioned further, witness agreed that he knew a detective called Ho Ka-yau. Asked if he was aware that the day before second accused's arrest, this Ho had been accused by a Magistrate of not telling the truth in a certain case, witness said he was not aware it.

He denied that Ho Ka-yau gave him specific instructions to arrest second accused for him. Sergeant 791 was the one who first suggested that second accused was connected with the present case. The sergeant suggested this to the Chief Inspector.

When second accused was questioned by the sergeant, witness went on, he told him his nickname wa "Tai Mong" (Big Fool).

Hearing is proceeding.

Four Traffic Accidents

A military lorry and a commercial truck were both extensively damaged in a collision at Brick Hill Road, near the Police Training School Aberdeen at 1 p.m. yesterday. A soldier on the military vehicle sustained slight injuries.

An elderly Chinese sustained facial and leg injuries when he collided with a bus in Queen's Road Central at 11.30 a.m. yesterday. The injured man was taken to hospital but was not detained.

An accident occurred near the junction of Johnston Road, Hennessy Road and Heard Street at 9.30 p.m. yesterday in which a tram car collided with a Chinese man and a woman who were on the road at the time.

Both pedestrians were injured and received out-patients treatment in hospital. The accident occurred in a very busy pedestrian area with a high accident rate.

A four-year-old Chinese girl received head injuries when she ran out onto the road and was knocked down by a private motor car in Shanghai Street at 10.15 yesterday. The girl is now detained in hospital.

JUDGE COMMENTS ON N.T. VILLAGES FEUD

Year's Imprisonment For Two Men

Two villagers of the Nam Ping Wai Village, New Territories, who attacked and wounded a representative of an adjacent village, the San Pui Village, following an incident which kindled an old feud between the two villages, were sentenced to one year each by Mr Justice J. Wicks when they pleaded guilty to wounding with intent at the Criminal Sessions this morning.

Passing sentence, Mr Justice Wicks commented on the feud between the two villages. "They must obey the law," he said. "If they have any complaint, the proper way is to go to the Police, or to the District Commissioner, and, if necessary, petition the Governor.

"Make no mistake that if they resort to force to settle their differences, it will mean long terms of imprisonment and other punishment."

Mr Patrick Yu, who appeared for the two accused, instructed by Mr Peter Wong, of Messrs Hastings, in a mitigation plea, said he felt it was a matter for the District Commissioner to explain the matter to them and to educate them in a proper way in due course.

The accused were Lok Kai-po, 24, farmer, and Ho Sum, 31, lorry driver.

Mr M. Morley-John, Crown Counsel, outlining the case, told the Court that the emplainant was a village representative of San Pui Village, New Territories. On October 9, he was attacked while taking tea outside a teahouse in Hop Yick Street, Yuen Long, by the two accused who came from Nam Ping Wai Village. The first accused was armed with a knife and the second with a long black object apparently made of iron.

As a result of the attack, the complainant, Lam Wing, received nine wounds in addition to multiple small puncture wounds on the scalp, neck, shoulder, chest and arms. Lam was subsequently detained in the hospital for six days.

THE BACKGROUND

"These are the facts of the actual attack. I think it is only fair for the Crown to inform your Lordship as to the background and the general conditions existing between these two villages," Crown Counsel said.

Two days before this attack, a 13-year-old boy of Nam Ping Wai Village was seen fishing in a pond in San Pui Village, which was just in front of the Nam Ping Wai Village. The boy was caught, and ran away after having been punished.

"This incident re-kindled the sparks of an old feud which has apparently been going on for a very long time between these two villages," Mr Morley-John said.

MAN BEATEN UP

On the following day, a party of men from the Nam Ping Wai Village beat up a man from San Pui Village. This attack was reported to Lam Wing, who in turn reported to the Police. The next incident that happened was that Lam was attacked by the accused.

"I have been instructed to ask your Lordship to take a serious view of this case so that it may impress the inhabitants of these two villages that they must not take the law into their own hands in order to assuage their alleged grievances," Crown Counsel said.

In mitigation, Mr Yu said that Crown Counsel had very fairly outlined the facts and the background of this case and there were two particular points which he would like to express on behalf of the accused.

The first was that before the incident of the boy, the Nam Ping Wai Village had always come out the worst of the two parties in village feuds and they always felt they were the "underdogs." Apparently, these villagers felt that the law had not sufficiently dealt with the occupants of the San Pui Village.

COMMON POND

With regard to the incident of the boy, Counsel said he was instructed that the pond was always regarded by the Nam Ping Wai villagers as a common pond and therefore they felt strongly about the incident of the boy being punished. They felt more so when they understood that quite a few "toughs" had taken the law in their own hands and given the boy "quite a big beating."

Mr Yu said he was informed that Lam Wing had in fact, before he reported to the Police Station, called a large meeting at San Pui Village, and that he had advised fighting and suggesting the beating up villagers of Nam Ping Wai.

"Indeed we who live in a civilised society look upon gangfights with horror but unfortunately in the New Territories, these villagers who have not got to the same stage of education, the understanding of their ignorance looks upon village feuds and gangfights in much less serious affair, especially when they feel that the law has not sufficiently dealt with the offenders.

"Indeed, I agree entirely with Crown Counsel that this is a very serious offence but I suggest that the only way is not to pass a heavy sentence—that would only make them feel bitter—the only way is for the authorities to explain the position to them, and educate them in due course."

Mr Yu added that if the sentence passed was heavier than the sentence which had been meted out to the other side, then they again "would be tempted to take the law in their own hands."

The first accused had an old mother of 80 to support and the second a 60-year-old mother.

The first accused was arrested on the day of the attack while the second accused eventually surrendered himself on the advice of village elders on October 15, Mr Yu said.

Passing sentence, Mr Justice Wicks said the accused had pleaded guilty to an offence which might carry a sentence of life imprisonment and cane. The injuries inflicted on the complainant were most serious, he said.

"I take into consideration all the circumstances in this case, particularly that they have no previous convictions and that they have been hitherto honest men."

His Lordship added that he would make it clear that if people in these two villages appeared in Court under similar circumstances the sentences to be imposed would be very different.

"They must obey the law. If they have any complaint, the proper way is to go to the Police, to the District Commissioner and if necessary petition the Governor.

"Make no mistake that if they resort to force to settle their differences, it would mean long terms of imprisonment and other punishment."

Two other accused, Tang Fook-kwai, 23, hawker, and Chan Kan-hung, 19, farmer, who pleaded not guilty to the same offence, were discharged when the Crown offered no evidence against them.

Traders' Alleged Conspiracy

Two proprietors and one sub-manager of three local Chinese firms were charged with conspiracy to cause false trade descriptions to be applied to a quantity of Japanese paper when they appeared before Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning.

The three men were also charged with other offences concerning infringement of a registered trade mark.

The defendants were Watt Chun-por, 35, sub-manager of Hing Fat and Company, of 72 Bonham Strand East, ground floor, Zee Yee-fong, 27, proprietor of Chu Yuen Hong, 389 Kings Road, first floor, and Hon Shuen-kwong, proprietor of Tack Tai Yuen Company, 68 Bonham Strand West.

They were all alleged on divers dates between March, 1955, and November 23, 1955, to have unlawfully conspired, combined and confederated together to cause a false trade description to be applied to a quantity of Japanese paper.

Watt, defended by Mr Arthur Lui, of Lo and Lo, is also alleged to have on or about July 18 applied a false trade description to paper of Japanese origin by putting on "Made in Sweden."

Zee, represented by Mr Alfred Hon, is alleged on or about November 23, to have falsely applied a trade mark as to be calculated to deceive.

Hon, represented by Mr Lawrence Loong instructed by Mr M. K. Lam, is alleged to have caused the false trade description "Made in Sweden" to be applied to the Japanese paper on or about July 18.

All defendants, who are on bail of $5,000, pleaded not guilty. They were remanded 24 hours for a date to be fixed.

WALLET STOLEN FROM SAILOR

A pickpocket stole a wallet containing $25 from an American sailor at the Star Ferry at about 7 p.m. yesterday.

A Chinese woman walking in Prince Edward Road had her purse snatched at noon yesterday. A suspect has been detained by the Police in connection with this offence.

Boat Catches Fire

A tow-boat under repairs in Taiko Docks caught fire while being soldered this morning.

The fire was put out by the Dockyard's own fire brigade in ten minutes.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith

"My son at college says he hasn't heard from me for six weeks — will you please look over my checks here and see if that's right?"